DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 202 743 SO 013 324

AUTHOR Robinson, Terry
TITLE Role of the Military, Unit III.
INSTITUTION Laramie County School District 1, Cheyenne, Wyo.
SPONS AGENCY Wyoming State Dept. of Education, Cheyenne.
PUB DATE 80
NOTE 76p.; For related documents, see SO 013 322-328. Not available from EDRS in paper copy due to poor legibility of original document. Some photographs may not reproduce clearly from EDRS in microfiche.

EDRS PRICE MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS American Indians; Civil War (United States); Elementary Education; *History Instruction; Learning Activities; *Military Organizations; Resource Materials; Social Studies; *State History; Units of Study; *War
IDENTIFIERS World War II; *Wyoming

ABSTRACT

This unit on the role of the military in Wyoming history provides activities which focus on the system of forts which began in 1849, Indian conflicts, World War II, and the Army and Air National Guard. Student activities include illustrating various battles, locating major Wyoming forts on a map, field trips to F.E. Warren Air Force Base and Fort Laramie, staging a famous battle, and making paper uniforms showing the differences over the years. Reproducible materials are vocabulary lists, word puzzles, maps of forts and trails, and instructions for building a fort. Essays discuss the Wyoming National Guard, the Wyoming Air National Guard, soldiers and forts, forts on the frontier, and the Little Big Horn. A list of resource persons, a bibliography, and reproducible maps are also provided. (KC)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL IN MICROFICHE ONLY HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Byron A. Barry

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

ED202743

UNIT III

ROLE OF THE MILITARY

BY: TERRY ROBINSON

Wyoming Studies Development Model,

A Title IV C, Fy '80 Project, Director

By Malcolm Cook, Social Studies Consultant

Draft III

Dr. Byron Barry, Superintendent of Schools

Laramie County School District Number One

Cheyenne, Wyoming

SO 013 324

The State of Wyoming

Department of Education Hathaway Building Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Lynn Simons
Superintendent of Public Instruction

WYOMING STUDIES DEVELOPMENT MODEL
(WySDM)

1979-81

A Federal Title IVc Project developed by Laramie County School District Number One, Cheyenne, Wyoming in cooperation with the Wyoming State Department of Education, Lynn Simons, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

For Further Information Contact:

R. L. Ferguson
Social Studies Consultant
Wyoming State Department of Education
Hathaway Building
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Unit lll

The Role of the Military

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION TO UNIT III

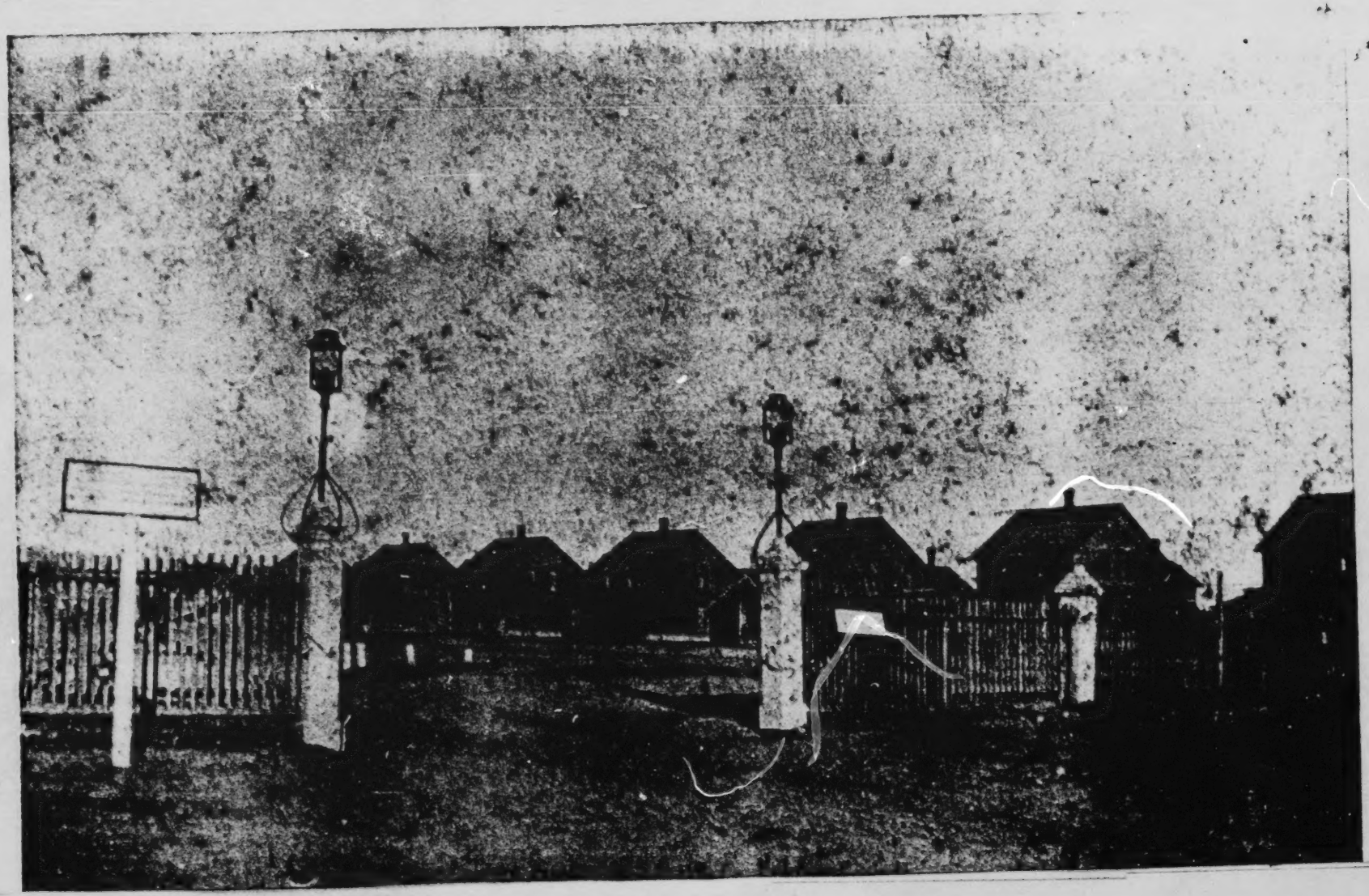
"The Role of the Military", is the third unit in a series of 12 to be developed for use in the districts' classrooms. In developing this unit ideas were accepted from local teachers, teachers from other areas of Wyoming, Wyoming State Museum and Archives, F.E. Warren Air Force Base Historian's Office, and other interested parties. No lesson plans have been written for use with this booklet. Each classroom teacher is free to use his/her expertise in adapting the material to their own classroom needs.

Materials from A Teaching Guide for the Cultural History and Geography of the Western Frontier and Upper Missouri Region, published by the Educational Research and Service Center, University of South Dakota, were adapted for this project. Some photographs used in this guide are from the collection of the Wyoming State Archives, Museums and Historical Department. We thank these people, and others, for their support and ideas.

No listing of goals or student outcomes is ever complete. You, the teacher, are encouraged to add or delete as you see fit. Various social studies skills are included in the course of completing the various activities.

Malcolm Cook, Director

Terry Robinson, Facilitator



Gate to Fort D.A. Russell
1897.

Photo furnished by the
Wyoming State Archives,
Museums and Historical
Department.

CONTENTS

ROLE OF THE MILITARY

Introduction.....White

Military Concepts for Students.....Yellow

Activities for Students.....Golden Rod

Stories.....Pink

Selected Resource People.....Salmon

Selected Bibliography.....Blue

Maps.....White

MILITARY CONCEPTS FOR STUDENTS

ROLE OF THE MILITARY

CONCEPTS

1. There has been a military presence in Wyoming since the Army bought Fort Laramie in 1849.

2. Emigrants and others, as they moved on to and across Indian lands, needed protection from angry Indians.

3. The United States government sent the army west to establish ownership of the area.

4. Several trails were established across Indian lands, and these trails needed to be patrolled by the army to keep them open for white men's use.

5. The major trails and the forts associated with each are:

Oregon, California, and Utah Trail	Fort Laramie and Fort Bridger
Bozeman Trail	Fort Fetterman, Fort Reno and Fort Phil Kearny
Overland Trail	Fort Halleck Fort Bridger

6. With the coming of the pony express, telegraph, and especially the railroad more forts were built. These forts included:

   Fort D.A. Russell (Fort Francis E. Warren in 1929)
   Fort Sanders
   Fort Steele

   (The list of forts is by no means inclusive. Others will be mentioned later.)

7. Fort D.A. Russell became the major supply base for the other railroad forts. It finally became the largest calvary post in the U.S.

8. In 1929 Fort Russell became Fort Francis E. Warren.

9. In 1947 Fort Warren became the property of the Air Force and is now the largest and most modern missile base in the Strategic Air Command (SAC). It is the only fort still in use as a military post.

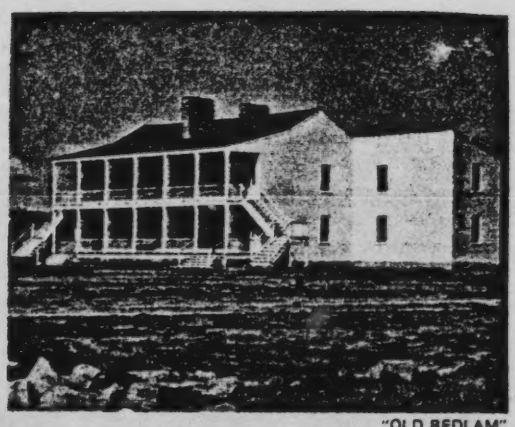
MILITARY - UNIT 3

I. There has been a military presence in Wyoming since the Army bought Fort Laramie in 1849.

At the completion of this unit the student will know:

1. Fort Laramie (originally Fort William) was built by William Sublette and Robert Campbell in 1834 as a trading post to compete with the Hudson Bay Company and establish American presence in the west.
2. Fort Laramie is located near where the Laramie River joins the North Platte River.
3. In 1849 Fort Laramie was sold to the U. S. Government to be used as an army post.

OFFICERS' QUARTERS AND SUTLER'S STORE

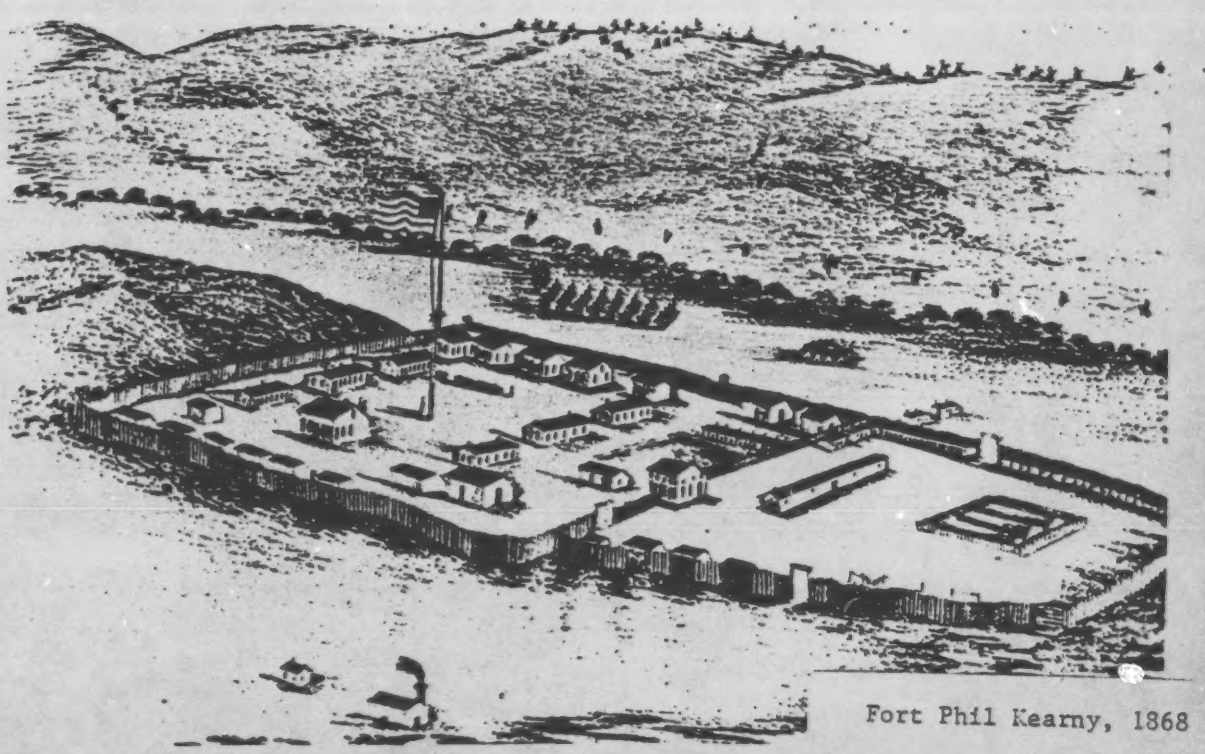

"OLD BEDLAM"

MILITARY - UNIT 3

II. Emigrants and others, as they moved on to and across Indian lands, needed protection from angry Indians.

At the completion of this unit the student will know:

1. Emigrants didn't always understand the Indians' philosophy, and sometimes their actions angered the Indians. (See introductory material of Indian Unit for Indian philosophy.)
2. At times battles were fought because of this anger.
3. Many trails were established across Indian land contrary to written agreements called treaties. (Almost any Indian could sign a treaty. However, it didn't often bind a group or tribe unless it was a major recognized chief.)



Fort Phil Kearny, 1868

Photo furnished by the Wyoming State Archives, Museums and Historical Department.

MILITARY - UNIT 3

III. The major trails and forts.

At the completion of this unit the student will know:

1. The major trails to cross Wyoming were:
   a. The Oregon, Utah, California Trail, so called because the people who traveled it were going to the Oregon Territory, Utah Territory or California Territory.
   b. The Bozeman Trail to the Gold fields of Montana.
   c. The Overland Trail across southern Wyoming.
2. How and where to locate these trails on a blank map of Wyoming.
3. What the major reason for each trail was.
4. The name and location of at least two forts associated with each trail.

Oregon, California, Utah Trail:

Fort Laramie

Fort Bridger

Bozeman Trail:

Fort Reno

Fort Phil Kearny

Fort Fetterman

Overland Trail:

Fort Halleck

Fort Bridger

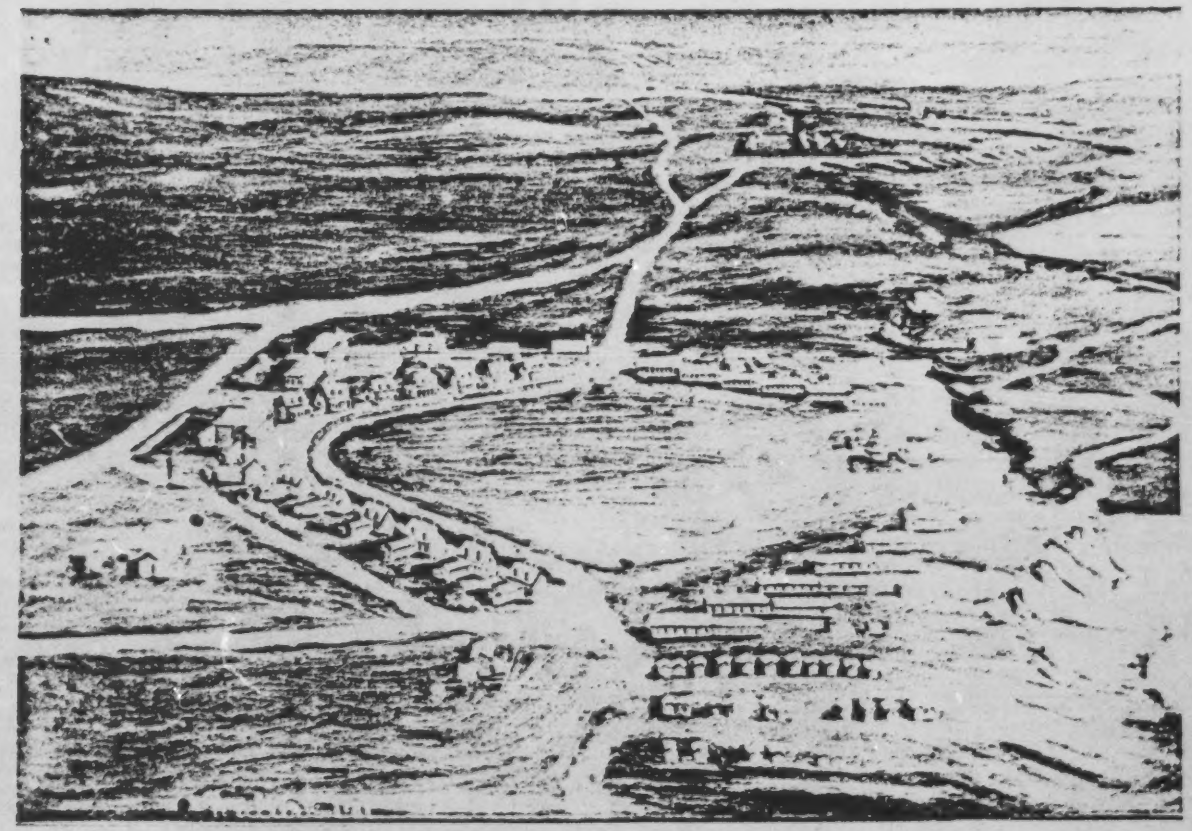
Fort Sanders

MILITARY - UNIT 3

IV. With the coming of the pony express, telegraph, and especially the railroad, more forts were built.

At the completion of this unit the student will know:

1. Forts D.A. Russell, Sanders, and Steele were built as supply bases and to protect the workers on the railroad.



Birdseye view of Fort D. Russell. Taken from a painting, September 20, 1868.

Photo furnished by the Wyoming State Archives, Museums and Historical Department.

V. The military was involved in many battles with the Indians.

At the completion of this unit the student will know:

1. that before the Civil War there were few battles between whites and Indians.
2. that the first battle, although small, was fought in June of 1853.
3. the meaning of the word massacre and how it was used, such as Gratton Massacre 1854. (It seems that if the whites won, it was a victory, and if the Indians won it was a massacre.)
4. that after the Civil War several battles were fought in what is now Wyoming. (Some you may want to cover are:)

Battle of Tongue River..... 1865

Platte Bridge Station Fight..... 1865

Fetterman Fight..... 1866

Crazy Woman Battle..... 1866

Wagon Box Fight..... 1867

Captain Bates Battle..... 1874

Dull Knife Battle..... 1876

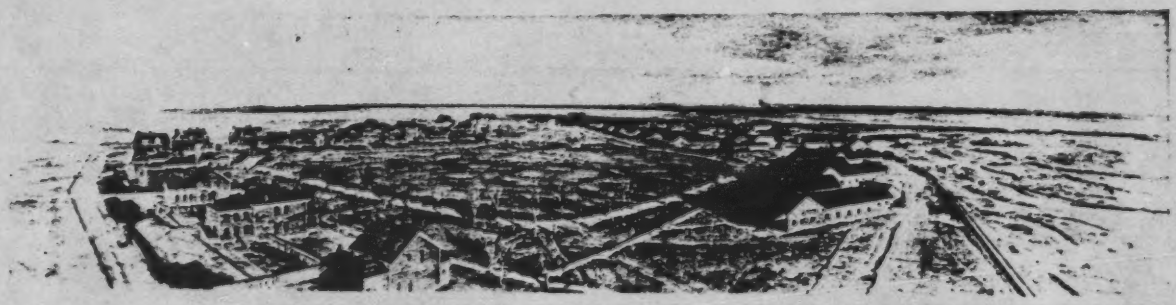
MILITARY - UNIT 3

VI. Fort D.A. Russell

(Because of its importance to Cheyenne, a special unit on Fort Russell is included.)

At the completion of this unit the student will know:

1. Fort Russell was established near Cheyenne in 1867 to protect the workers on the railroad.
2. Fort Russell became the major supply base for the other forts in Wyoming.
3. Fort Russell became the largest calvary post in the United States.
4. In 1929 Fort Russell became Fort F. E. Warren.
5. During World War II, F. E. Warren was a training center for 122,000 quartermaster specialists.
6. In 1947 Fort F. E. Warren became F. E. Warren Air Force Base.
7. Today the Base serves the Strategic Air Command as a strategic missile headquarters.



Aerial view of F. E. Warren ca 1930.

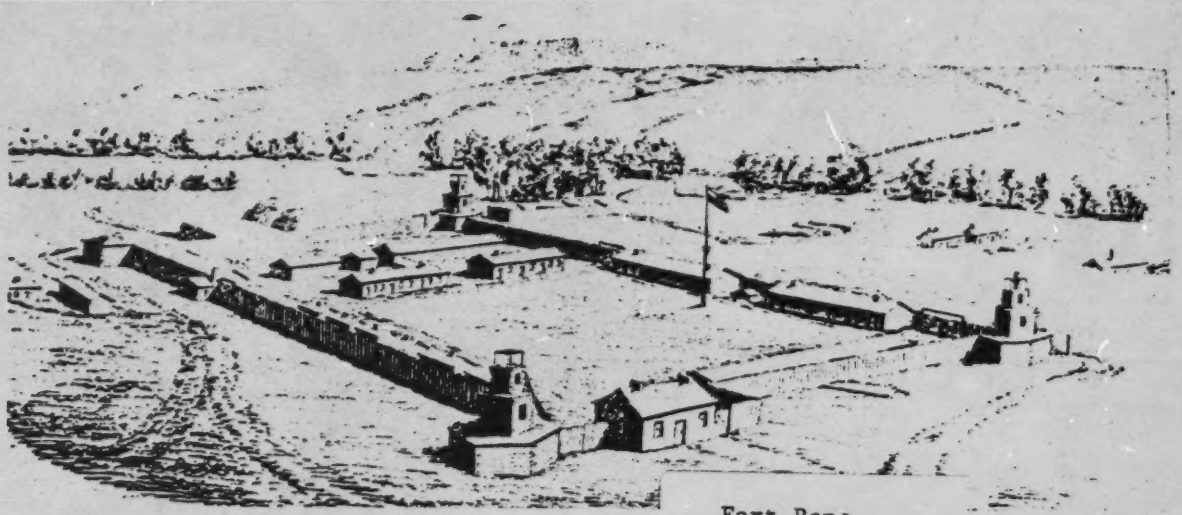
Photo furnished by the Wyoming State Archives, Museums and Historical Department.

MILITARY - UNIT 3

VII. World War II

At the completion of this unit the student will know:

1. Wyoming played a major role in the war effort.
2. Fort Warren was enlarged.
3. An army air base was built near Casper.
4. A prisoner of war camp was built near Douglas
5. A Japanese relocation camp was built at Heart Mountain between Cody and Powell.



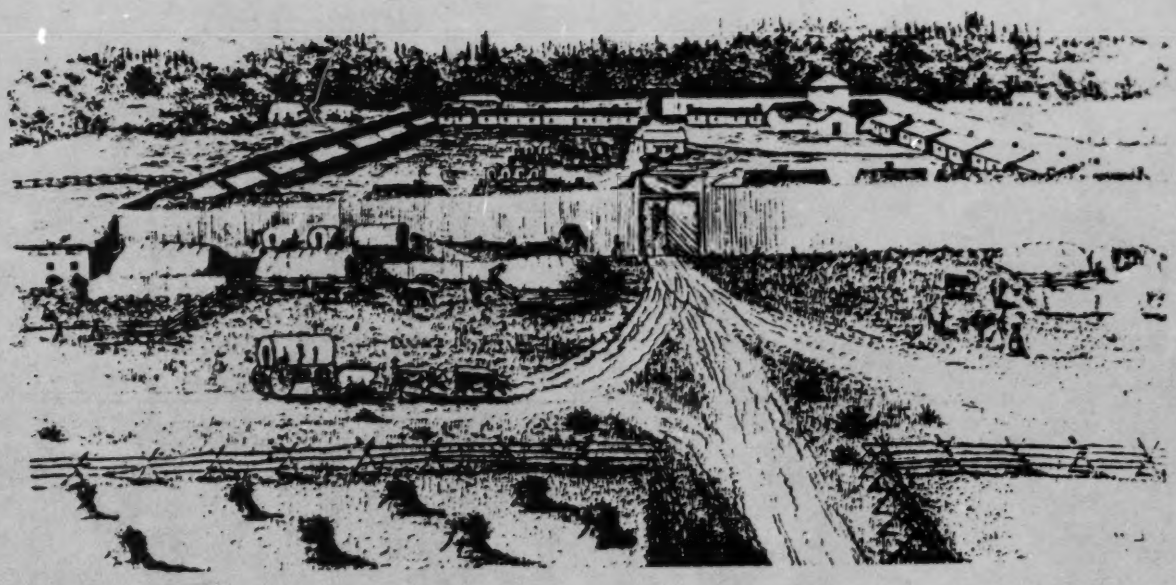
Fort Reno

Photo furnished by the Wyoming State Archives, Museums and Historical Department.

MILITARY - UNIT 3

VIII. The National Guard

The student should be made aware of the role played by the Air and Army National Guard in Wyoming's military movement. A short history of each is included for your use. More information is available by calling the Guard Public Affairs Officer, Major John Cornelison at 772-6229, or stop at his office at 5500 Bishop Blvd.



Fort Supply

Photo furnished by the Wyoming State Archives, Museums and Historical Department.

ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS

ROLE OF MILITARY

ACTIVITIES

1. Construct shadow boxes or models of forts to show how the soldiers lived.
2. Drawings can be made to illustrate the various battles.
3. A program (slide/tape presentation) on F.E. Warren Air Base can be arranged by calling the Base Information Office at 775-3381.
4. On a map of Wyoming locate the major forts.
5. Mini reports can be prepared by the students on such people as Caspar Collins, John "Portugee" Phillips, or Captain W. J. Fetterman.
6. Take a field trip to F.E. Warren Air Force Base. Be sure to see the Base Museum.
7. If at all possible, a trip to Fort Laramie should be planned.
8. Do vocabulary exercies using crossword puzzles, scrambled words and word search.
9. Research and stage a famous battle.
10. Read books about what military life was like and draw pictures to illustrate what was read.
11. Ft. Collins, Colorado was named for the father of Caspar Collins. Caspar Collins gave his name to Casper, Wyo. Research other interesting facts on the military here.
12. Find out what kinds of troops were here (such as the Buffalo Troops).
13. Make paper uniforms showing the differences over the years. (The Base Museum could be of value here.)
14. Research could be done to find out who were some of the famous people to visit Wyoming's early forts.

VOCABULARY

Make a picture for each of the following words:

1. Plowed
2. Attacked
3. Settlers
4. Fences
5. Hostile
6. Forts
7. Trails
8. Punish
9. Reservation
10. Covered Wagon
11. Stagecoaches
12. Peace
13. Weapons
14. Tools
15. Uniform

VOCABULARY

The following words have been scrambled; try to unscramble the words.

Bozeman	Hayfield Battle	Portugee Phillips	Red Cloud
Fort Laramie	Breech	Crazy Horse	Connor
Wagon Box	Treaty	Washakie	Sioux
Indians	Wyoming	Grattan	Reservation

1. nartgat
2. oisxu
3. giywnom
4. aashikew
5. edr odulc
6. cerheb
7. ytaetr
8. nocron
9. ycrza sorhe
10. noitavreser
11. ngawo oxb
12. tugroeep lipslihp
13. dansiin
14. ildfyeah tltabc
15. znameob
16. rotf eimaral

15

VOCABULARY

Teachers key to scrambled words.

1. Grattan
2. Sioux
3. Wyoming
4. Washakie
5. Red Cloud
6. Breech
7. Treaty
8. Connor
9. Crazy Horse
10. Reservation
11. Wagon Box
12. Portugee Phillips
13. Indians
14. Hayfield Battle
15. Bozeman
16. Fort Laramie

WYOMING WORDGRAM

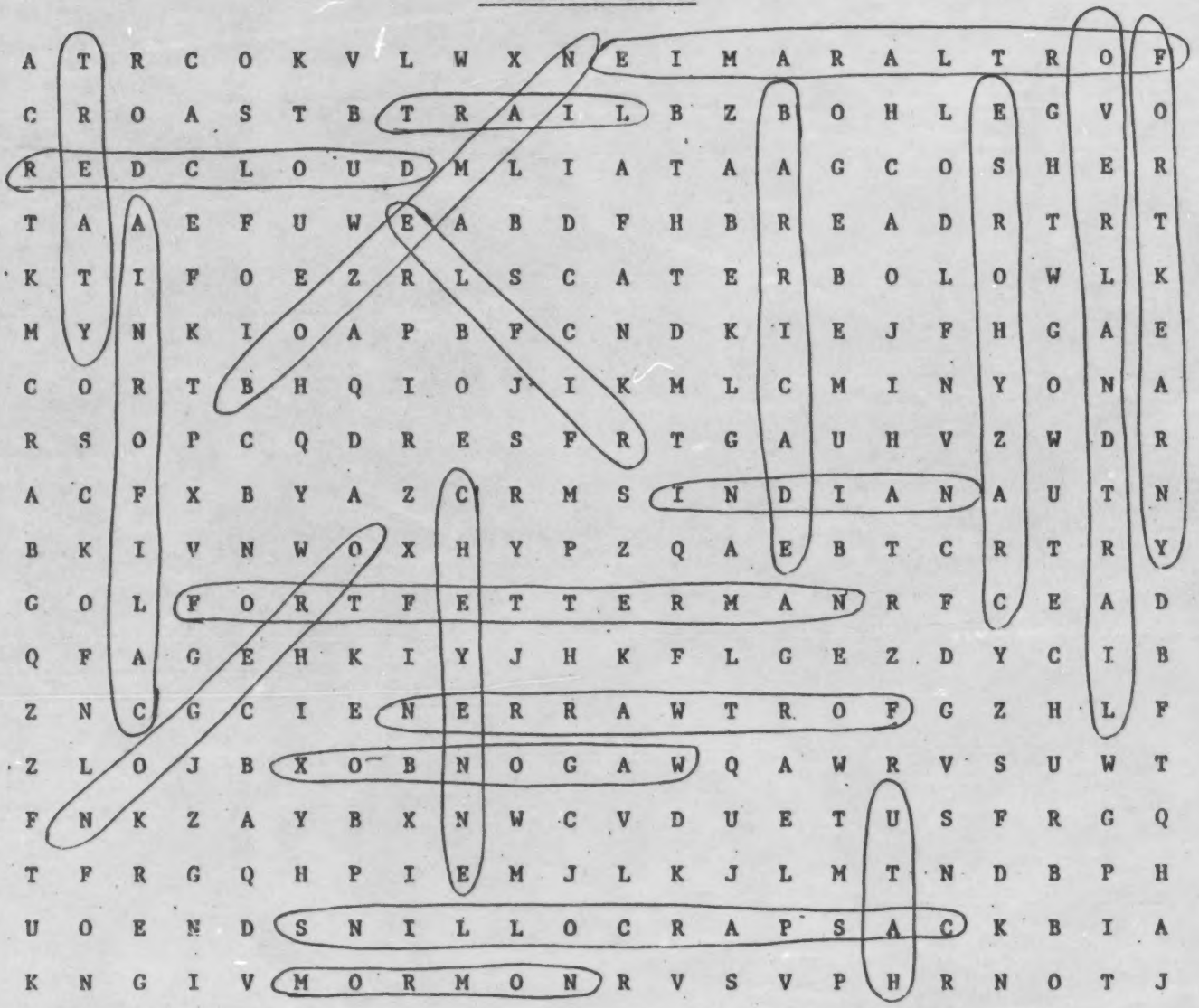
A T R C O K V L W X N E I M A R A L T R O F
C R O A S T B T R A I L B Z B O H L E G V O
R E D C L O U D M L I A T A A G C O S H E R
T A A E F U W E A B D F H B R E A D R T R T
K T I F O E Z R L S C A T E R B O L O W L K
M Y N K I O A P B F C N D K I E J F H G A E
C O R T B H Q I O J I K M L C M I N Y O N A
R S O P C Q D R E S F R T G A U H V Z W D R
A C F X B Y A Z C R M S I N D I A N A U T N
B K I V N W O X H Y P Z Q A E B T C R T R Y
G O L F O R T F E T T E R M A N R F C E A D
Q F A G E H K I Y J H K F L G E Z D Y C I B
Z N C G C I E N E R R A W T R O F G Z H L F
Z L O J B X O B N O G A W Q A W R V S U W T
F N K Z A Y B X N W C V D U E T U S F R G Q
T F R G Q H P I E M J L K J L M T N D B P H
U O E N D S N I L L O C R A P S A C K B I A
K N G I V M O R M O N R V S V P H R N O T J

Find these words

Fort Laramie
treaty
rifle
barricade
Indian
Fort Kearny
Fort Fetterman
Cheyenne
Bozeman
trail
Wagon Box
Red Cloud
Crazy Horse
Caspar Collins
California
Oregon
Utah
Mormon
Fort Warren
Overland Trail

TEACHERS' KEY

WYOMING WORDGRAM


A T R C O K V L W X N E I M A R A L T R O F
C R O A S T B T R A I L B Z B O H L E G V O
R E D C L O U D M L I A T A A G C O S H E R
T A A E F U W E A B D F H B R E A D R T R T
K T I F O E Z R L S C A T E R B O L O W L K
M Y N K I O A P B F C N D K I E J F H G A E
C O R T B H Q I O J I K M L C M I N Y O N A
R S O P C Q D R E S F R T G A U H V Z W D R
A C F X B Y A Z C R M S I N D I A N A U T N
B K I V N W O X H Y P Z Q A E B T C R T R Y
G O L F O R T F E T T E R M A N R F C E A D
Q F A G E H K I Y J H K F L G E Z D Y C I B
Z N C G C I E N E R R A W T R O F G Z H L F
Z L O J B X O B N O G A W Q A W R V S U W T
F N K Z A Y B X N W C V D U E T U S F R G Q
T F R G Q H P I E M J L K J L M T N D B P H
U O E N D S N I L L O C R A P S A C K B I A
K N G I V M O R M O N R V S V P H R N O T J

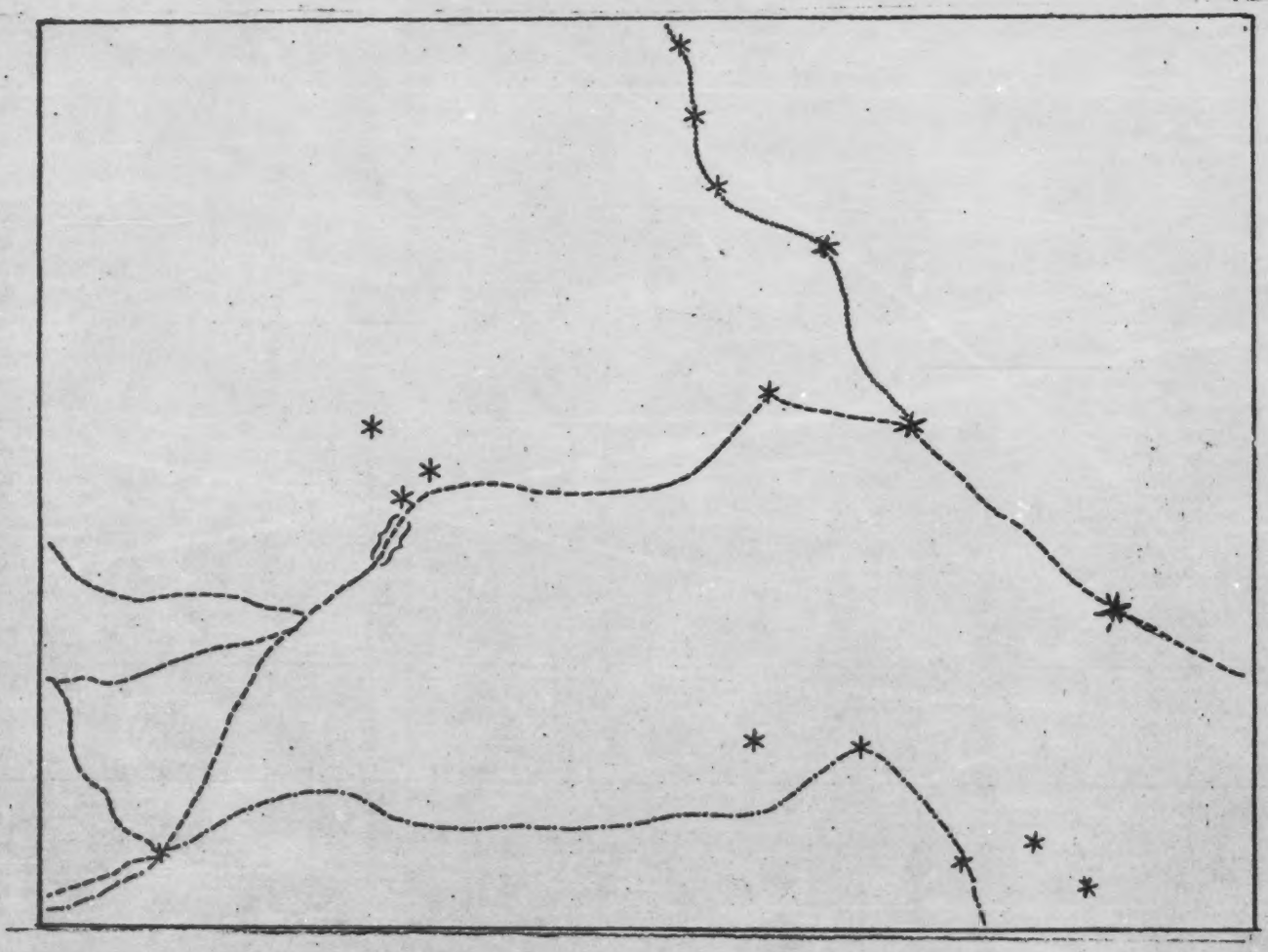
Find these words

Fort Laramie
treaty
rifle
barricade
Indian
Fort Kearny
Fort Fetterman
Cheyenne
Bozeman
trail
Wagon Box
Red Cloud
Crazy Horse
Caspar Collins
California
Oregon
Utah
Mormon
Fort Warren
Overland Trail

21 ✗

FORTS AND TRAILS

On the map below, place the number of the fort or camp near the star indicating the correct location. Write in the name of the trail or route along the lines indicated on the map. Names within ( ) indicate an earlier name for same location.

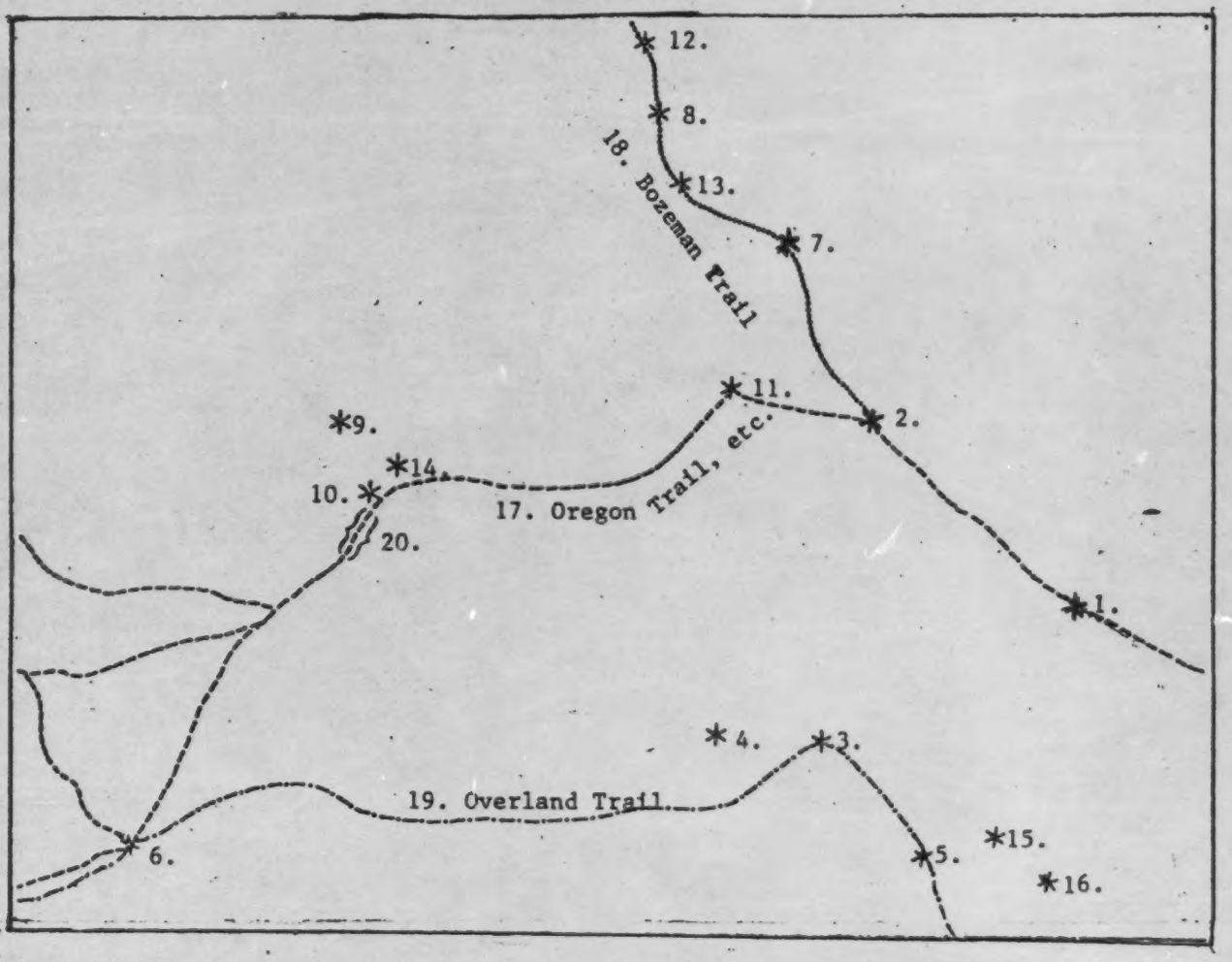


1. Fort Laramie
2. Fort Fetterman
3. Fort Halleck
4. Fort Steele
5. Fort Sanders (Fort Bufford)
6. Fort Bridger
7. Forts Reno and Connor
8. Fort Phil Kearny
9. Fort Washakie
10. Fort Stambaugh
11. Fort Caspar
12. Fort MacKenzie
13. Fort McKinney
14. Camp Augar (Camp Brown, Fort Brown)
15. Camp Walbach
16. F.E. Warren Air Force Base (Camp Carlin, Fort D.A. Russell, Fort F.E. Warren)
17. Oregon Trail (Mormon Trail, Pony Express, California Trail, etc.)
18. Bozeman Trail
19. Overland Trail (Cherokee)
20. South Pass

TEACHER KEY

FORTS AND TRAILS

On the map below, place the number of the fort or camp near the star indicating the correct location. Write in the name of the trail or route along the lines indicated on the map. Names within ( ) indicate an earlier name for same location.



1. Fort Laramie
2. Fort Fetterman
3. Fort Halleck
4. Fort Steele
5. Fort Sanders (Fort Bufford)
6. Fort Bridger
7. Forts Reno and Connor
8. Fort Phil Kearny
9. Fort Washakie
10. Fort Stambaugh
11. Fort Caspar
12. Fort MacKenzie
13. Fort McKinney
14. Camp Augar (Camp Brown, Fort Brown)
15. Camp Walbach
16. F.E. Warren Air Force Base (Camp Carlin. Fort D.A. Russell, Fort F.E. Warren)
17. Oregon Trail (Mormon Trail, Pony Express, California Trail, etc.)
18. Bozeman Trail
19. Overland Trail (Cherokee)
20. South Pass

20

How to Make Play Clay Figures

The scene is set. Now all you need are the 3-D figures to make it look alive. The following recipe will make a modeling clay which needs no firing. Simply let it air dry for a few days.

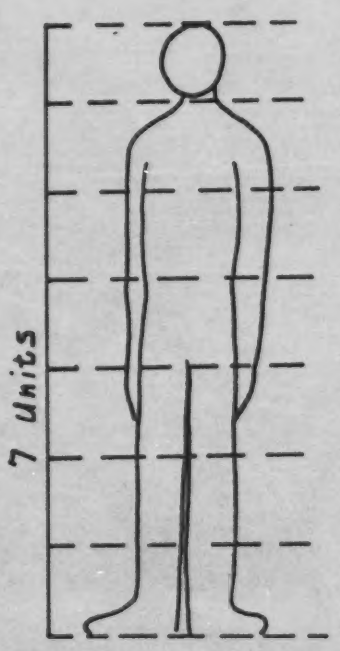
PLAY CLAY RECIPE

1 cup flour
½ cup salt
3 tablespoons alum
1 cup water
1 tablespoon corn oil

Cook over low heat. Stir until it thickens and sticks together. Knead in food color on waxed paper. Keep in air tight containers or wrapped in plastic.

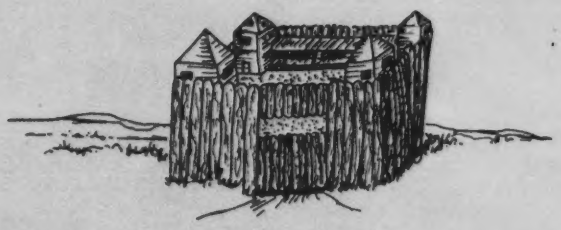
PROCEDURE:

1. Make the basic shapes of the parts - balls, rectangles, rolls, etc.
2. Use pieces of toothpick to aid in holding the pieces together. Smooth over the joints.
3. Let dry. Taller pieces may have to be propped up. Be sure they are completely dry before removing the support.
4. Hands and feet may be attached in the same way.
5. From here on, the details of clothes and accessories are up to you.



Follow these proportions noting the length of arms and legs.

How to Build a Fort



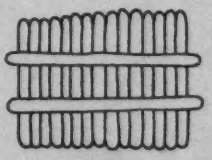
It is only logical that the unit on soldiers and forts have a "how to" on forts. Here it is! The instructions are easy and basic. The rest is up to you.

MATERIALS:

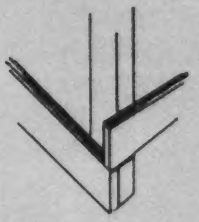
Popsicle sticks, white glue, mat knife, rule, very small nails or tacks.

PROCEDURE:

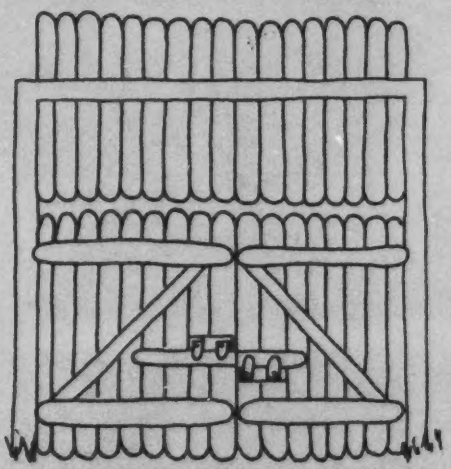
1. Flat walls are made by lining up sticks vertically and gluing two sticks horizontally.

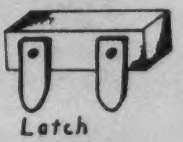


2. The guard houses and other enclosed structures are made by cutting off the ends of the sticks and building up log cabin fashion, with corner posts for support.



3. The gate is shown below:



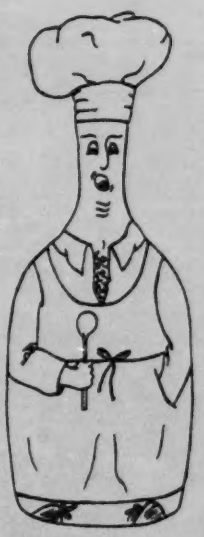


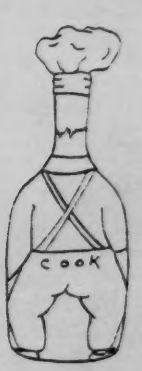
How to Make a Bottle Soldier

Here is a "sure fire" way of making toy soldiers for a display or just plain fun.

MATERIALS:

white latex paint, poster paint, brushes and water, brushing lacquer, odds and ends appropriate to the subject.





PROCEDURE:

1. Choose a bottle to fit the shape of your subject (fat cook; tall, skinny wranglers; ugly, lumpy colonel).
2. Coat sides and top (also cap if you want) with latex. A single good covering will do fine. Dry.
3. Draw the character you chose and all the details over this.
4. Starting with your large areas and/or the background, begin painting with the poster paint. Finish with small things (details and outlines).
5. After the poster paint is completely dry, put a thin coat of brushing lacquer over it. Look at those colors shine!
6. For that final touch of cleverness, add an object (a spoon for the cook, a rope for the cowboy, glasses, a hat, etc.)
7. Now, didn't you do a terrific job!!!

How to Make Army Insignias

The emblem at the center is the man's specialty - the number of stripes, his rank.

The color of the chevrons indicates the branch of the Army. Yellow - cavalry, scarlet - artillery, blue or white - infantry.

First Sergeant, Infantry

Saddler Sergeant, Cavalry

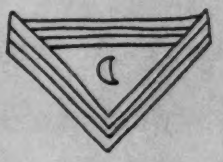
Hospital Steward, Medical

Stable Sergeant, Artillery

Chief Trumpeter, Cavalry

Cook, Corporal, Infantry

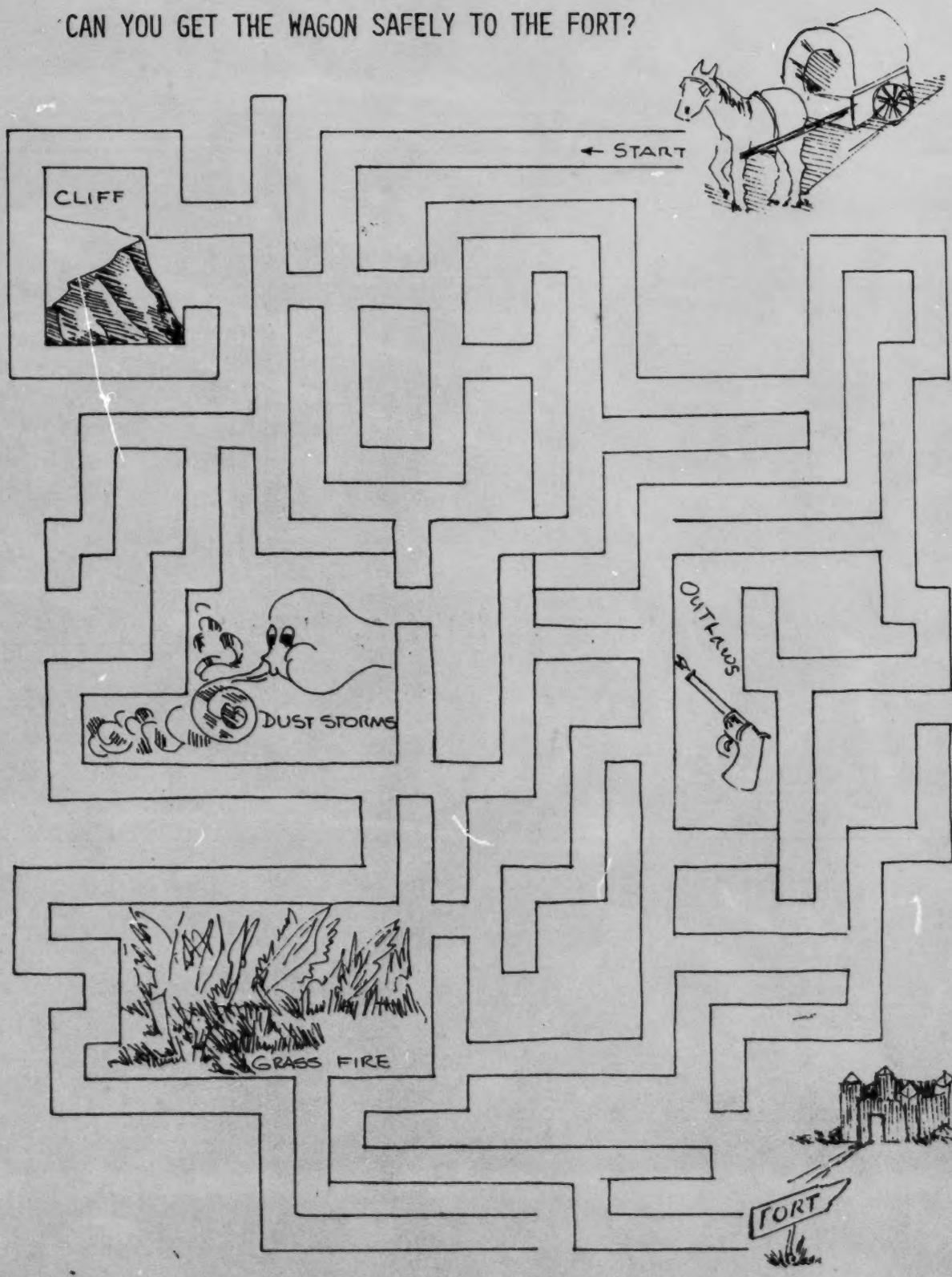
Drum Major, Artillery



Commissary Sergeant, Artillery

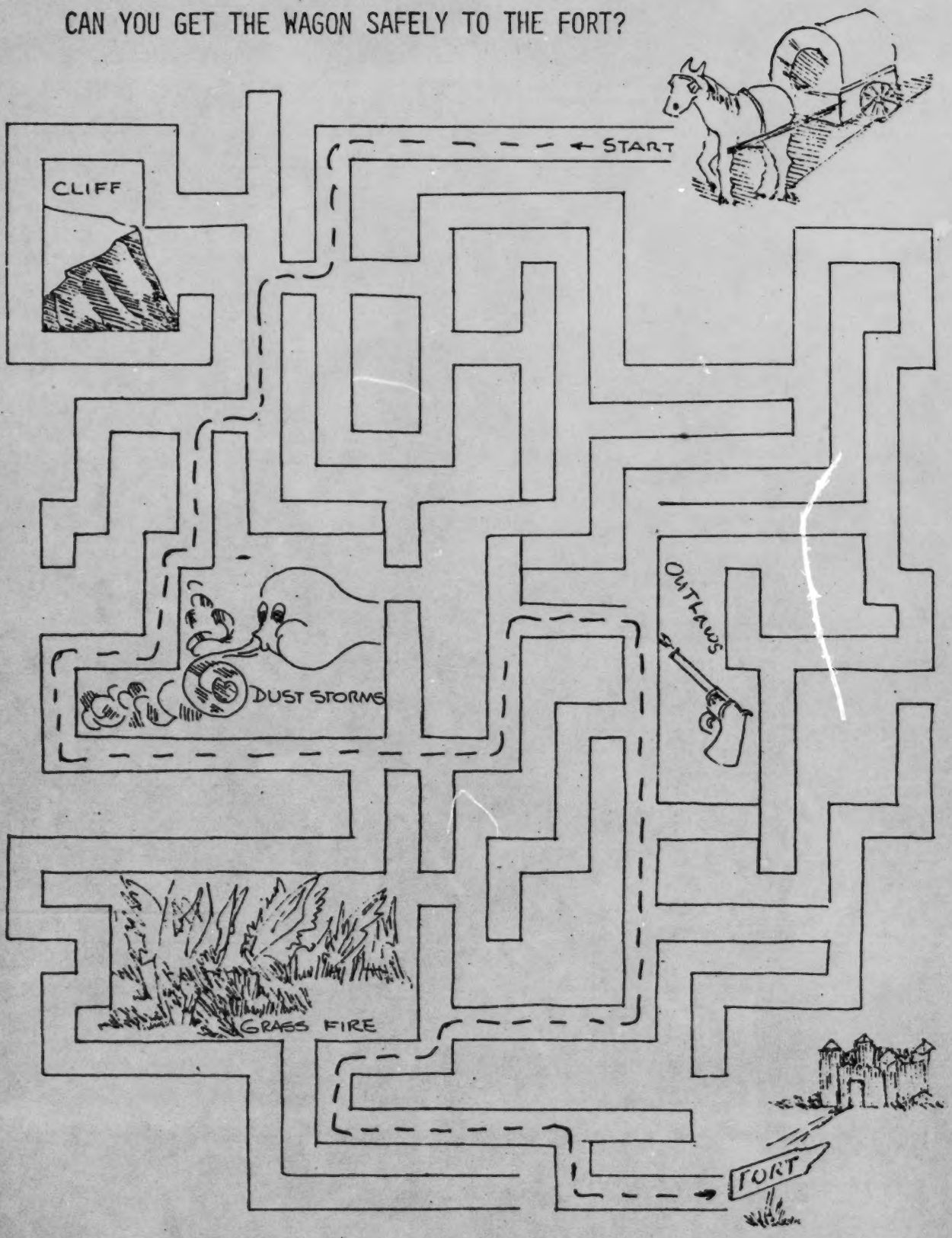
David Nevin, The Soldiers. New York, 1973. Time-Life Book Series.

CAN YOU GET THE WAGON SAFELY TO THE FORT?



TEACHERS' KEY

CAN YOU GET THE WAGON SAFELY TO THE FORT?



25

STORIES

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE WYOMING NATIONAL GUARD

Ninety-five years after the first major battle of the American Revolution, Wyoming took the first steps toward organizing what would become its Army National Guard.

It was 1870 when Wyoming Territorial Governor John A. Campbell authorized division of the territory into three military districts. The following year, he told the second session of the Territorial Assembly of the "imperative necessity that exists for the passage of a militia law."

Responding to the Governor's message, the Assembly passed the law, effective December 31, 1871, giving legal sanction to the formation of volunteer militia companies of not less than 40 men. A number of colorful, but apparently shortlived units came and went. 1873 saw the organization of the "Cheyenne Rangers," followed in 1874 by the First Regiment, "Wyoming Home Guards" in Cheyenne and Laramie. In 1876, records indicated a company at Carbon, with the "Wyoming Rangers" at Lander. Interest in organizing these early units apparently was sparked by concern over possible conflict with Indians.

The "Laramie Grays" came along in 1888, under Governor Thomas Moonlight, and was the first Wyoming unit officially recognized in Department of the Army lineage and honors records.

The "Grays," Co. A, First Wyoming Regiment, were followed the same years by the organization of Co. B, known as the "Cheyenne Guards," and a lively, but friendly rivalry developed between the two units.

With statehood in 1890, came Constitutional provisions for a State Militia, and the decade saw additional units formed in Buffalo, Rock Springs, Green River, Douglas, Sheridan, Evanston, and Rawlins. In May, 1894, a regimental band, forerunner of the Guard's present 67th Army Band,

was formed at Rawlins, followed in December by arrival of the Wyoming Gaurd's first artillery. Rawlins' Battery A was equipped with two, horse-drawn, three-inch Hotchkiss guns.

The outbreak of the Spanish-American War in 1898 brought the first federal mobilization of Wyoming's National Guard, and the formation of volunteer units such as Torrey's Rough Ridersm raised by Embar, Wyoming rancher, Jay L. Torrey, and the Alger Light Artillery.

Since 1898, Wyoming's Guard has been mobilized for service in the Mexican Punitive Campaign, both World Wars, the Berlin Crisis, and Korea, with the state's Air Guard flying support missions during the Vietnam conflict.

Today, as in the past, the men and women of the guard must be ready to carry their dual, federal-state mission. With the end of the draft and the establishment of the all-volunteer military, the guard has even more responsibility for the national defense. In their peacetime, state mission, under the governor as commander in chief, the guard may be called upon to assist during disasters or other emergencies. They have fought forest fires, floods, and tornados; fed livestock; rescued motorists stranded in blizzards, conducted search and rescue missions; and performed a variety of other services for Wyoming citizens.

Today, the Army Guard has units in 21 Wyoming communities, with training maintenance and supply facilities at Camp Guernsey. There are 32 units. Eight units make up the First Battalion, 49th Field Artillery, headquartered at Sheridan, with nine making up the Third Battalion, 49th Field Artillery, headquartered at Casper. The Command and Control Headquarters, Laramie, includes the 1022nd Medical Det., 197th Public Affairs Det., Detachment 1, Attack Helicopter Troop, 116th Armored Calvery, the 67th Army Band, and the 349th Air Traffic Control Det., are all located in Cheyenne; the 133rd Engineer co., Laramie and

Wheatland, 960th Maintenance Co., Torrington, and 141st Military Police Platoon, Casper. The state Headquarters and Headquarters Det., and 115th Field Artillery Brigade also are located in Cheyenne, Other units are the Army National Guard Training Site, 197th Engineer Det., and 475th Medical Det., Guernsey.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE WYOMING AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Wyoming's Air National Guard, headquarters in Cheyenne, was organized August 11, 1946 as the 187th Fighter-Comber Squadron, and was among the first Air Guard units after World War II.

In 1951, the squadron was mobilized into federal service for the Korean conflict, and eight of its pilots died in action.

Since 1946, the Air Guard has undergone a number of mission changes, and its personnel have seen many kinds of aircraft come and go.

In the latter part of 1953, the squadron converted to F-80 jet fighters and, in July 1957, was redesigned the 153rd Fighter Group. F-86L "Sabre" jets came along in 1958, and the squadron became part of the Air Defense Command. Early in 1961, the 153rd was changed to an Aeromedical Transport Group and converted to C-119 transport planes. Later in 1961, the outfit was again redesignated as the 187th Aeromedical Transport Squadron.

Converting to four-engine, C-121G aircraft in 1964, the Wyoming Air National Guard became the 153rd Air Transport Group, flying many overseas missions to Japan and Vietnam. In 1968, they picked up the aeromedical airlift responsibility once more, and transported armed forces patients to medical centers for emergency or specialized treatment. The unit also provided airlift of cargo and passengers for the Military Airlift Command, other active forces, and the Army and Air National Guard.

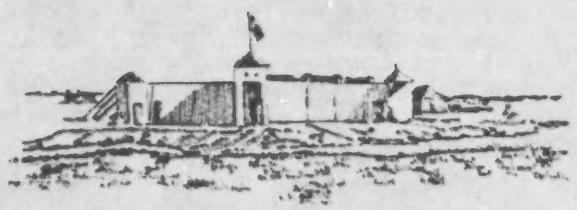
Today, the state's Air Guard is equipped with nine, four-engine C-130 "Hercules" transport planes, and has been designated the 153rd Tactical Airlift Group under the Military Airlift Command. Their job is to deliver troops and cargo; provide aeromedical evacuation; and airlift passengers and cargo when required.

One of the newest missions for the Air Guard is airborne firefighting. The 153rd is equipped with two Modular Airborne Firefighting Systems (MAFFS), and crews have received specialized training in their operation. The MAFFS units, on request from the U.S. Forest Service through Air Force Headquarters, may be loaded on the guard's C-130's, flown to the site of a forest fire, and filled with fire-retarding chemicals.

The aircraft make low-level passes over the fire and discharge the chemicals through large nozzles protruding from the rear cargo doors of the planes. Wyoming's Air Guard has assisted in fighting major fires in California. The firefighting mission is conducted under terms of an agreement between the governor, his adjutant general, the Forest Service and the Air Force.

Today, the state Air Guard's 153rd Tactical Airlift Group includes the 187th Tactical Airlift Squadron; 153rd Combat Support Squadron; 153rd Consolidated Maintenance Squadron; 153rd Tactical Clinic; 153rd Civil Engineer Flight; 153rd Mobility Support Flight; 187th Aeromedical System Flight; 153rd Mobility Support Flight; 153rd Communications Flight; 153rd Weapons System Flight; 187th Aeromedical Evacuation Flight; and the 153rd Aerial Port Flight. Some 700 men and women serve in the Wyoming Air National Guard.

SOLDIERS AND FORTS



The United States Army was very active between the Upper Mississippi River Valley and the Interior Basin during the 19th Century. Numerous military units were in service, and many forts were in use, as War Department officials worked to explore the region, to settle disputes between Indian tribes and to maintain peace between Indians and immigrants who moved in to exploit natural resources. The list of units and forts is far too extensive to include in this narrative; only a few are incorporated to illustrate the roles that soldiers played in the development of the region.

Soldiers made their initial appearance soon after the purchase of Louisiana, when Thomas Jefferson ordered a succession of expeditions to determine the physical nature of the area he acquired, and to assert the sovereignty of the United States among Native Americans who occupied it. The first and most famous military expedition was that led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. During the spring of 1804, the two men assembled their party, loaded their supplies, and began to move up the Missouri River. During their travels, which lasted for approximately two years, they recorded volumes of observations. In addition, as they moved from tribe to tribe, they informed Indian leaders that Louisiana had recently become property of the United States, that it was under the control of President Jefferson, and that the Indians who occupied it were to refrain from carrying on trade with foreigners -- especially the British from Canada.

Before Lewis and Clark returned, a second expedition, led by Lieutenant Zebulon Pike, ascended the Mississippi River from St. Louis to Leech Lake in northern Minnesota. Pike's instructions were to explore the upper Mississippi Valley region, to establish peaceful relations with Indian leaders, to select sites for military trading posts and to assert the sovereignty of the United States. On an expedition that lasted less than one year, Pike accomplished these purposes so successfully that he was chosen by his commanding officer, General James Wilkinson, to conduct an even more noteworthy expedition across the Great Plains and Colorado into the Southwest.

As Lewis, Clark and Pike recorded their observations in northern Louisiana and asserted the sovereignty of the United States over the people who occupied it, few non-Indians were seriously interested in the new possession. Accordingly, for more than a decade there was no need for further exploration or the presence of troops. Developments during the War of 1812 created a need for soldiers, however. British traders convinced more than 100 Sioux to take up arms against the United States during the War, and tribes in western Dakota forced the retreat of traders from the Missouri Valley. Manuel Lisa, for example, who had established trade centers as far west as Montana, was compelled to withdraw. By the War's end, there was no American outpost above Council Bluffs. To discourage future Indian hostilities, to frighten the British away and to open up trade routes across the northern Rockies into Oregon Country, Secretary of War John C. Calhoun ordered a build up of military forces and the construction of forts during the post-war period. In 1819 and 1820, Henry Atkinson moved up the Missouri and established Camp Missouri (which soon was rebuilt as Fort Atkinson). Simultaneously, another party ascended the Mississippi and founded Fort Snelling at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers.

After the establishment of these two key outposts, troubles between fur traders and the Arikaras caused War Department officials to dispatch another military expedition further up the Missouri Valley. While trying to buy horses near present Mobridge, South Dakota, several of William Ashley's men were killed. Ashley sent a call for help to Benjamin O'Fallon, Indian Agent at Council Bluffs, and to Colonel Henry Leavenworth, the Commander at Fort Atkinson. Leavenworth led more than 300 soldiers and trappers, plus several hundred Indian allies, up the River, defeated the Arikaras and convinced their leaders to promise to remain at peace in the future.

In 1824, after the Arikaras had settled down, Congress appropriated $20,000 to support a major treaty making expedition into the same area. General Henry Atkinson teamed up with Agent O'Fallon led a party of 435 infantrymen and forty mounted soldiers, and negotiated several treaties by which Indian leaders acknowledged the soveriegnty of the United States, agreed to accept U.S. protection and promised to maintain peace in the future. To these treaties, other expeditionary leaders added many more of a similar type - - to arrange peace between tribes and to win assurance that there would be no further attacks against fur trappers and traders operating on the Upper Missouri. Because of the negotiations of the 1820's and 1830's, there was little need for military reinforcements on the Upper Missouri for

many years. Bastions and cannons on trading company outposts were sufficient to deal with occasional Indian attacks.

By the end of the 1840's, however, there was need for a further show of strength on the northern Great Plains and in the northern Rockies. The migration of Mormons, and of thousands of other overlanders traveling the Oregon Trail to Oregon Country or California, caused great anxiety among Indians. To prevent hostilities, a battalion of Missouri Mounted Volunteers moved west in 1848 and established Fort Kearny on the south bank of the Platte River, near the head of Grand Island. The next year, because of an increase in traffic along the Oregon Trail caused by the movement of "49ers" to California, the government purchased Fort Laramie - - an American Fur Company trading post - - and placed a substantial garrison there. Then, two years later, D.D. Mitchell and Thomas Fitzpatrick assembled leaders

from all of the major Indian tribes in the region and negotiated the first Treaty of Fort Laramie, by which the Indians agreed to guarantee safe passage for overlanders in the future.

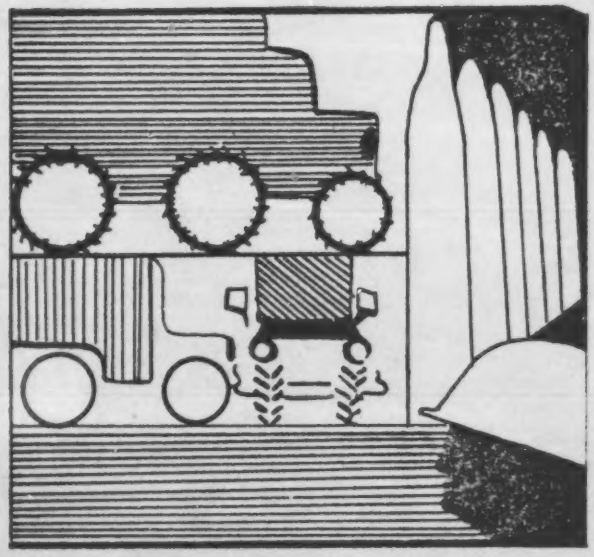
On the surface, the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851 seemed to assure peace on the northern Great Plains, but its effects were short-lived. The hunting territories guaranteed to the tribes in the Treaty were constantly in jeopardy as large groups of overlanders moved out along the Oregon and Mormon Trails year after year. That the Fort Laramie negotiations could not prevent further conflict became apparent during 1854, when a group of Sioux attacked and killed Lt.J.L. Grattan and his detachment near Fort Laramie. A retaliatory expedition moved out the next year, under General William S. Harney, and defeated Brule warriors who had been involved in the Grattan Affair, then turned north to found military forts deep in Sioux country in hopes of preventing further trouble along the Oregon Trail and in the Missouri Valley region. Harney established Fort Lookout, and Fort Randall, to impress the Sioux with the potential strength of the U.S. Army, and for a time his tactic seemed effective.

The need for troops diminished sharply after 1880 with the appearance of other law enforcement agencies. By then, most Indian reservations had Indian police units, controlled by Indian agents, to keep order on reservation lands. Outside the reservations, policemen employed by territorial, state, and county governments, and vigilance forces supported by cattlemen's associations were at hand. As the number of Indian policemen and civil officers increased, the need for U.S. Army troops decreased. Except for keeping watch over the process of land allotment - - on the Flathead Reservation, for example - - the need for the Army all but disappeared by about the year 1900.

During the century that they served the region, soldiers played many significant roles in its development. Clearly, the most important ones were in exploration, diplomacy and war. Soldiers led initial expeditions up the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers for the United States. They gave protection to fur traders and trappers; asserted the sovereignty of the U.S. government; settled disputes between Indian tribes native to the region; gave protection to the thousands of overlanders who passed through the region around mid-century; and supported officials of the Indian office as they worked to "concentrate" Indians on reservations in order to make room for Anglo-American civilization. Soldiers were at hand to protect farmers in southern Minnesota during the war in 1862-63, then appeared to defend the gold miners on the Great Sioux Reservation during the 1870's, etc. Subsequently, they stayed on to police reservations and non-Indian communities until their services were no longer necessary.

As they made exploratory, diplomatic and military contributions, soldiers stimulated the development of the region in many other ways. For example, they were important customers to the men who ran steamboats, freighting wagons and railroads across the area through the 19th Century. Soldiers were consumers of agricultural products, of beef and mutton, and of many other goods and services sold in towns across the region. Forts that housed soldiers served as way stations for overlanders - - places where they could rest, purchase repairs for their wagons, get medical treatment, supplies, etc. And soldiers provided permanent populations for the states in the region because when they were mustered out many of them settled near the points where their units were dissolved.

Admittedly, in most ways the presence of soldiers was detrimental to Indian tribes of the region because they served the interests of the non-Indian public and not of the Indians. Yet, the fact that the presence of soldiers often had salutary effects upon the tribes should not be overlooked. Next to missionaries, soldiers probably dealt more equitably with Indians than did any other group. They offered employment for tribes located near their camps, distributed food to people who otherwise might have gone hungry, provided medical services for Indian people and stood watch along the boundaries of Indian reservations to prevent "squatters" from occupying Indian land. Soldiers purchased wood from Indians, arranged the marketing of robes and pelts and bought Indian-produced cattle and Indian-grown agricultural products. Once the wars were over, soldiers frequently made the lives of Indians easier than they might have been by mollifying the effects of intrusions of non-Indian pioneers and the selfish practices of Indian superintendents and agents. In other words, soldiers influenced the lives of all other people in the region during the 19th Century, and the effects of their presence were not restricted to high-handed diplomacy and the show of force. In a number of cases, it can be demonstrated that the presence of generals prevented bloodshed; the service of garrisons softened conflict between the races.



Still, during the late 1850's, tensions mounted between Indians and non-Indians. East of the Missouri River, tribes were subjected to "concentration" on small reservations, to the corrupt devices of "Indian rings" that snatched annuities from them by fraudulent means, and to encroachments by pioneering farmers who moved out to occupy the prairie vacated as the reservations were established. West of the Missouri, tribes were incensed by disease epidemics, the degenerating effects of trade whiskey, the appearance of buffalo

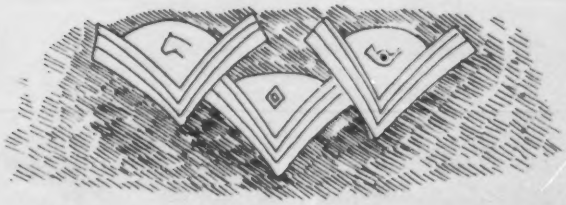
hunters and the continuous increase of non-Indian intruders onto Indian lands. Wars were almost inevitable.

Shooting began along the Minnesota River Valley in the "Sioux Uprising of 1862." Following a vicious contest of arms, the Sioux were defeated and pursued by Henry H. Sibley and Alfred H. Sully. At length those who did not retreat into Canada were either confined to small tracts of land in southern Minnesota or forced to locate upstream from Fort Randall, where Fort Thompson was established to keep watch over them on the Crow Creek Reservation. As the "Uprising of 1862"came to a close, "Red Cloud's War" broke out in resistance to the completion of the Bozeman Trail across Sioux country. Red Cloud's warriors were successful in preventing the completion of the Trail with a show of strength that

brought the demise of W.J. Fetterman's column, and Teton Sioux leaders were able to gain the recognition of a "Great Sioux Reservation" at the Treaty of Fort Laramie in 1868, as a result.

Of course, the triumph of Sioux arms was short-lived; in the Great Sioux War over the Black Hills during the 1870's, the power of the warriors was to be broken. In an attempt to drive out gold prospectors, Sioux leaders assembled a large force and wiped out George Custer and his Seventh Cavalry, but soon after the defeat of Custer the Sioux fell before the superior arms of the U.S. Army and were "concentrated" on reservations. Within thirty years the "Great Sioux Reservation" was broken up and most of the land it contained was sold as surplus for non-Indian development. Along the foothills of the southern Rockies, the Cheyenne and Arapaho took up arms following the rush of "59ers" into Colorado. In response to depredations in the Denver area, Colonel J.M. Chivington led the Colorado Militia in an attack against Black Kettle's people along Sand Creek and left the corpses of more than 400 Indians on the battleground. For all practical purposes, this "massacre" ended Indian resistance in Colorado and brought peace to the region south of the Oregon Trail.

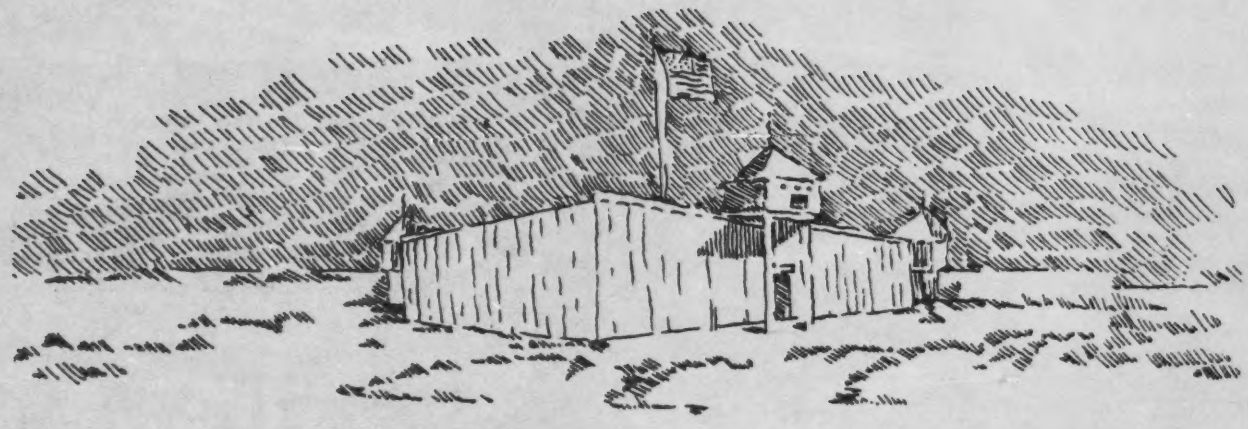
Soldiers made their most dramatic contributions to the development of the region during the



"Uprising of 1862," Red Cloud's War, the Great Sioux War and the Chivington Campaign. While these major confrontations were in progress, the War Department enlarged calvary units and established many forts. The army reached its maximum strength in about the year 1880; and about the time that most Indian military resistance drew to a close.

Subsequently, most of the forts assumed peacetime character. Soldiers engaged in routine duties, except on occasions when they were asked to make patrols, or when there was a threat of renewed hostilities. For example, they were called out in substantial numbers when the Great Sioux Reservation was being broken up in 1889, and when Indians drew together on the Pine Ridge Reservation in an episode that led to the tragic massacre at Wounded Knee in 1890. In addition, troops were called out every time a tribe was confined to a reservation or subjected to the allotment process during the 1890's, and in the early years of the 20th Century.

Forts on the Frontier



Fort Bridger

Fort Bridger was established in the 1830's, as a site for the rendezvous of trappers, but in 1842 it was taken over by mountain man Jim Bridger. He obtained, from the Mexican government, the land surrounding the post on Black's Fork of the Green River in what is now southwestern Wyoming.

Bridger set up a blacksmith's shop, supply stores and trading post in hopes of doing a large business with overland travelers. He and his partner, Vasquez, were not as successful as they could have been because they often were not at the Fort when customers appeared. Many times they were trapping or hunting instead of carrying on their business. Nevertheless, Fort Bridger became famous as the major way station between Fort Laramie and Fort Hall. Bridger, who was familiar with the entire area, offered advice and information to travelers, and was known as the most reliable "travel agent" in the Northwest through 1840's, as both Mormons and gentiles moved out to Utah, Oregon Country and California.

The Fort sat in a wide valley, and was considered picturesque by many travelers. It consisted of several log buildings surrounded by a wooden fence, and the enclosed area contained the living quarters of the Bridger and Vasquez families, plus various storerooms.

In the latter 1850's, during the Mormon War, Fort Bridger was threatened by Danities - - the Mormon Militia. A party of them stole merchandise and set fire to the buildings. Although it is not known for certain why the Danites launched their attack, historians believe that they did so as a gesture of defiance against gentiles in general, and perhaps because of some personal grievance they had against Bridger. In any event, the incident precipitated the appearance of the Utah Expedition, led by General Albert Sidney Johnston. Bridger served as a guide during the Mormon War. Johnston's forces camped at the site of the Fort during the winter of 1856-57, after it was burned, and forced the Mormons to accept the replacement of Brigham Young by a gentile governor in Utah Territory.

Subsequently, Fort Bridger became an outpost for the U.S. Army. Because of its location, it served as an important link in the chain of forts the army maintained for the protection of travelers against raids along the Oregon Trail during the late 1850's and 1860's. Then it served as a base for troops serving the Wind River Agency, and the Sweetwater mining district. It was abandoned in 1890, after Indian hostilities had ceased.

Today Fort Bridger is a Wyoming State Park that contains a museum, and such points of interest as a cemetary where Bridger's daughter was buried and part of the "Mormon Wall" built of cobblestones in 1855, to replace Bridger's stockade.

Mountain Man Jim Bridger was legendary. He spent more than fifty years in the region of the Upper Missouri and Western Frontier, first as a trapper and explorer, than as a trader, and finally as a guide for both travelers and U.S. Army troops.

Bridger began his career as a member of the band of trappers led by William Ashley, founder

of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, which explored the Upper Missouri in the early 19th Century. According to legend he was one of two men who left Hugh Glass, another trapper in Ashley's group, to die on the High Plains of western Dakota after he had been mauled by a grizzly bear. Doubtless Glass carried a grudge against Bridger to his grave, but most historians feel that Bridger's subsequent exploits and contributions made up for one act of betrayal as a young man.

He explored the region thoroughly, and became indispensable to the U.S. Army during its campaigns against the Indians in the region, and also to such transportation builders as Union Pacific engineers as they searched for the best pass through the central Rockies. Bridger probably was the first non-Indian to see the Great Salt Lake; he believed it to be an "arm" of the Pacific Ocean. He advised overlanders about the locations of Indian tribes and potential farmsites. Overlanders sometimes disregarded his advice. He is said to have once told Brigham Young that he would give him $1,000 for the first ear of corn he grew in the Utah desert, and that Mormons would not be able to survive there. In most cases, however, immigrants heeded his advice.

Bridger was, like most mountain men, illiterate. He listened to literature, and often memorized quotations from such works as Shakespeare's plays, but could not read them for himself. He was to the West what Daniel Boone was to Kentucky; he was the embodiment of the fearless pathfinder who made the way easier for those who came after him.

Discussion Topics

1. Why was Fort Bridger not as successful as a trading post as it could have been?
2. See if you can find any information on the Utah War and explain the role Fort Bridger played in the incident.
3. What various types of activities did Bridger engage in during his long life?
4. See if you can find out more about the story of Hugh Glass and the grizzly bear. Why would Bridger have left Glass to die?
5. Think of some reasons for comparing Jim Bridger to Daniel Boone.

Vocabulary Building

Picturesque
Abandoned
Cobblestones
Proprietors
Legendary
Betrayal
Illiterate
Embodiment

Fort Laramie

Fort Laramie was the most significant military outpost in the Western Frontier and Upper Missouri region during the 19th Century. It was built originally, in 1834 as a fur trading center by Wiliam Sublette and named Fort William. Subsequently, it was taken over by the American Fur Company, and moved to a new site a mile upstream on the North Platte River from its original location. In 1849, American Fur Company officials sold it to the U.S. government, and it served as a major center for military activities until 1890. Because of its location on the Oregon Trail, Fort Laramie became an important way station for overland travelers after 1840, and later on it was a principal mail station. However, its most famous contribution to the development of the region was in American Indian affairs. It served successively as a fur trading post, as the location for the negotiation of major treaties with Indian tribes of the northern Great Plains, and as a base for military operations against Indians during the 1860's and 1870's.

The U.S. Army acquired Fort Laramie in 1849 to prevent Indian attacks against overland travelers who cut across the "big reservation" that had been established during the Jackson Period. The Army made many improvements at the Fort: added quarters for officers and soldiers, a bakery, stables, etc. Travelers described it as being enclosed by a wall some eleven feet high, made of Spanish brick or adobe, and containing a beautiful parade ground plus clean, orderly stables. There were numerous buildings inside the wall, made from adobe and wood.

By mid-century, it became obvious to government officials that the tribes of the northern Great Plains would interrupt the flow of traffic along the Oregon Trail unless their leaders were asked to maintain peace. Accordingly, the Indian Office directed mountain man Thomas Fitzpatrick, who had served as an Indian agent since 1847, to assemble leaders of the major tribes at the Fort in 1851. The treaty that resulted included a guarantee of the right of the federal government to build additional forts and to establish roads across the "big reservation," and also an agreement by the chiefs that overland travelers would have safe passage across the region in the future.

From 1851 to 1890, Fort Laramie nevertheless became vital to military operations, for the Sioux, Cheyenne, Arapaho and various other tribes found it necessary to defend the areas set aside for them in the Treaty of 1851. Buffalo hunters, miners, farmers and other groups moved in to exploit resources on tribal lands, and the Indians fought as best they could in self-defense. At length, the tribesmen went down to defeat and accepted "concentration" on reservations, and once they were pacified, the Fort was no longer essential to the U.S. Army.

In April, 1890, troops withdrew from Fort Laramie, and for several decades it was unoccupied. Finally, in 1938, the state of Wyoming obtained the land around the Fort, then turned it over to the National Park Service. Since that time it has been declared a National Monument and has been restored as a major attraction for tourists. Visitors are reminded of the struggle that took place in the vicinity during the 19th Century, and the great significance of Fort Laramie in the history of the Western Frontier and Upper Missouri region.

Discussion Topics

1. List three ways in which Fort Laramie was important to dealings with Indians in the region.
2. Discuss the Treaty of 1851. What were its provisions? See if you can find information on other treaties signed at Fort Laramie.
3. What factor caused the decline of Fort Laramie's significance to the U.S. Army?
4. Does the Fort serve any purpose today? Why is it important to the history of our region?

Vocabulary Building

Subsequently
Negotiation
Guarantee
Exploit
Restored

March to the Little Big Horn

Perhaps more has been written on this incident than about any other frontier battle in American history. The war on the Little Big Horn occurred in early summer, 1876, when the Sioux and their allies - - the Northern Cheyenne - - decided to take up arms in defense of their rights to the Black Hills region. In the Treaty of Fort Laramie, 1868, the government had promised the Teton Sioux sanctuary in the "Great Sioux Reservation" west of the Missouri River - - the area they had occupied since their migration from Minnesota in the previous century. When George Custer revealed the existence of substantial gold deposits in the Black Hills region in 1874, prospectors swarmed into the area and Indian rights were in jeopardy.

After attempts by government officials to purchase the Black Hills area had failed, and non-Indians had begun to swarm in, war became inevitable. U.S. Army units restricted the Indians' movements during the winter of 1875-76 when game was so scarce that the tribes faced starvation. At that point, government officials declared that all Sioux and Northern Cheyenne found off certain areas assigned to them after January 31, 1876, would be considered hostile. Indians prepared to defend themselves, and Brigidier General Alfred H. Terry, commander of the Dakota Department, proceeded against them on a punitive expedition.

Terry's plan outlined a three column thrust converging on the Yellowstone region from different directions. His strategy looked good on paper, but it called for difficult movements over deep streams, badlands, and mountains. One column, commanded by Brigidier General George Crook, was to proceed from Fort Fetterman northward into the Powder River country. A second column, led by Colonel John Gibbon, was to move eastward from forts along the Yellowstone River. The third, commanded by General Terry, and known as the "Dakota column," was to march westward from Fort Abraham Lincoln, and to parallel the Yellowstone River. The three forces were expected to converge somewhere on the Big Horn or Little Big Horn Rivers. The main striking arm of the Dakota column was the Seventh Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer.

On June 8, while the Dakota column was camped at the mouth of the Powder River, Major Marcus A. Reno set out with six troops that comprised the right wing of the Seventh Cavalry, plus Arikara scouts, to comb the badlands for traces of hostile Indians. When Reno returned, his scouts reported a great Indian lodgepole trail in the valley of Rosebud Creek. This was the trail of the main Indian camp that had recently moved over into the valley of the Little Big Horn.

Terry was convinced that the main Indian camp was concentrated somewhere between the Rosebud and the Big Horn - - probably along the Little Big Horn River. He sent the Seventh Cavalry to the mouth of the Rosebud.

Meanwhile, General Crook's troops, marching north from Wyoming, had engaged Indian warriors and were defeated at Rosebud Creek on June 17. The two other columns, converging on the Yellowstone from the north, were unaware of Crook's defeat. They knew only that there was a large force of Indians near the headwaters of Rosebud Creek.

The Big Horn Mountains provided the Sioux with a refuge; once they entered the mountains they would find it easy to defend themselves. Therefore, Terry suggested that if the trail seemed to turn westward and lead over the Wolf Mountains into the valley of the Little Big Horn - - and he expected that it would - - Custer should not follow it, but rather move south toward the headwaters of the Tongue River. The object was apparently to allow Gibbon's slower-moving infantry sufficient time to get into position on the Little Big Horn. In this way, Custer would be able to intercept enemy forces if they tired to escape by passing around his left flank, and he could turn them back into position where

they would be trapped between the two major forces. As Custer moved out, Terry reportedly gave him freedom to act according to his own judgement, however:

> Use your own judgement and do what you think best if you strike the trail, and whatever you do, Custer, hold on to your wounded.

Having permission to use his own discretion, Custer rode out of the camp on the mouth of the Rosebud on June 22 for his fatal engagement with the Indians. His Seventh Cavalry consisted of thirty-one officers, 585 enlisted men, plus a number of Arikara scouts who had volunteered for the mission. General Terry had offered Major Brisbin's battalion of the Second Calvary, but Custer had refused, explaining that if the Seventh Cavalry could not handle the Indians, the extra battalion would make no difference and might seriously weaken his command by creating jealousies.

On the morning of June 23, Custer's soldiers found the great lodgepole trail reported by Major Reno as they moved toward the mouth of the Rosebud. During the day they passed Indian campsites - - all of them several weeks old, but visible enough to indicate that a large band of Indians had passed that way. The lodgepole trail was at least three hundred yards wide in some places, was deeply worn, and indicated that great numbers of Sioux and Northern Cheyenne had left their reservations.

Custer's officers believed that what they had found was a succession of campsites created by one small band of Indians, but the Crow and Arikara scouts were convinced that they marked a trail left by a large number - - possibly several thousand. Evidently Custer accepted the opinion of the scouts, followed the trail thirty miles up the Rosebud, and, after twelve hours of hard riding, camped at the mouth of Beaver Creek.

Saturday morning, June 24, an ever-increasing number of Indian signs were sighted by the scouts. There is little doubt that Custer's regiment had been under surveillance ever since it had left the mouth of the Rosebud. Surely the Sioux were aware of Custers location, for his forces were deployed in several columns, and the horses kicked up enormous clouds of dust that could be seen for miles around.

Custer was a full day ahead of schedule, but instead of giving his regiment a rest and scouting the headwaters of Tullock's Creek, as General Terry had suggested, he sent ahead three of his Crow scouts to find the hostile village. Custer had been told of the Crow's Nest, a high, rounded hill almost exactly on the center of the divide of the Wolf Mountains, from which everything of interest in the valley of the Little Big Horn could be observed. At nine o'clock the scouts returned and reported that the Indians had crossed the divide, but that their camp was not visible. Custer ordered a night march and moved his regiment to the base of the divide in order to get into position to move on the summit before daybreak. This night march was not tactically unwise, but it probably caused trouble for Custer later on, because his men and horses doubtless were fatigued when they approched the Indian camp.

Custer ordered three of his Lieutenants, four Crow scouts and five or six of the Arikara scouts to the Crow's Nest with hopes that they could locate his enemies by their campfires. The scouting party reached the observation point at about 2:30 a.m. on June 25. As the sun rose they must have gasped with amazement; before them was sprawled an enormous Indian village. Two of the Arikaras rushed back with a note to Custer stating that the Indian camp was about twenty miles away in the valley of the Little Big Horn. Soon after the two scouts left, others saw mounted Sioux at the foot of the hill a short distance to the west. Now there was little question that the Sioux were aware of the location of the Seventh Cavalry.

Just before noon, on June 25, Custer led his command over the divide of the Wolf Mountains and headed to the valley of the Little Big Horn - - into the "Valley of the Shadow of Death." On that day, George Custer became a legendary figure in the history of the American West.

Discussion Topics

1. List as many grievances as you can which the Sioux and Northern Cheyenne had against the federal government in 1876.
2. Why was Custer expected not to follow the trail of the Indians? Did he disobey orders? Explain.
3. What was the major error that the leaders of the cavalry made in the time before the battle?
4. Were the Indians aware of the location of Custer's troops? Do you think this had any effect on the outcome of the battle?
5. The Battle of the Little Big Horn has become a legend of the frontier. Discuss possible reasons for this.

Vocabulary Building

Treaty
Scout
Hostiles
Lodgepole Trail
Tactically
Converging

SELECTED RESOURCE PEOPLE

Resource people that can be contacted for more information.

R. L. Ferguson
Social Studies Consultant
777-7411
Wyoming Department of Education
Hathaway Building
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Malcolm Cook
Social Studies Coordinator
632-0591, Ext. 215
Laramie County School District Number One
2810 House Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

Terry Robinson
Facilitator - WySDM
632-0591, Ext. 171
2710 House Avenue (Clark Building)
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

Dr. Jim Johns
Laramie County Community College
634-5853
1400 East College Drive
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

F.E. Warren Air Force Base
Base Historian's Office 775-2885
or Information Office 775-3381
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

Wyoming State Archives Museum and
Historical Office
Barrett Building 777-7518
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

State of Wyoming
Adjutant General's Office
Major John Cornelison
Public Affairs Officer 772-6229
5500 Bishop Blvd.
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

SELECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY LISTINGS FOUND IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ROLE OF MILITARY

Cheyenne, Wy. Chamber of Commerce, Wyoming Labor Journal Publishing Co., 1930

Coffin, Morse H....The Battle of Sand Creek.....W.M. Morrison, 1965

Collier, Wm.....Dave Cook of the Rockies.....Rufus Rockwell Wilson, 1936

Custer, Elizabeth.....Boots and Saddles.....N.Y. and London, Harper & Brothers

Ellison, Robert S....Fort Bridger, Wyoming.....Historical Landmark Comm. 1931

Field, Sharon L.....Fort Fetterman's Cemetery....Sharon L. Field, 1970

Godfrey, Edward S....Diary of the Battle of the Little Big Horn..Champoeg Press 1957

Goetzmann, Wm....Army Exploration in the American West, 1803-63. Yale Uni. Pr. 1959

Graham, W.A..... Reno Court of Inquiry...1934

Graham, W.A....The Story of the Little Big Horn..Military Service Publ. Co., 1926

King, Charles....Campaigning With Crook

King, Charles....Captain Blake.....Phil., Lippincott, 1894

King, Charles.....Foes in Ambush.....Phila., Lippincott, 1905

King, Charles....Starlight Ranch, and Other Stories of Army Life on the Frontier. Phila., Lippincott, 1905

King, Charles....Trials of a Staff Officer

King, Charles.....Trooper Ross and Signal Butte...Phila., Lippincott, 1908

King, Charles.....Warrior Gap.....Hurst, 1898

Knight, Oliver.....Life and Manners in the Frontier Army

Koury, Michael J....Diaries of the Little Big Horn...The Old Army Press, 1968

Mattes, Merrill J..Fort Laramie and the Forty-Niners..Rocky Mtn. Nature Ass'n, 1949

McCann, Lloyd....The Grattan Massacre.....University of Indianapolis, 1954

Mokler, Alfred....Fort Caspar....The Prairie Publishing Co., 1939

Murray, Robert A...The Army on the Powder River...The Old Army Press, 1969

OTHER BOOKS AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ROLE OF THE MILITARY

Brady, Cyrus T....Indian Fights and Fighters...University Press, Lincoln, Nebraska

Brown, D. Alexander....The Galvanized Yankees (Southern Prisoners of War Serving in the West).....University of Illinois Press

Brown, Dee.....Fort Phil Kearney.....Putnam, 1962

Carrington, Frances....Army Life on the Plains and Fort Phil Kearney Massacre..... J.B. Lippincott Co.

Finnerty, John.....War-Path and Bivouac.....University of Nebr. Press, Lincoln, Nebr.

Fleishman, Martha...Bugs to Blizzards or An Army Wife at Fort D.A. Russell..... Wigwam Publishing Co., 1974

Furniss, Norman....The Mormon Conflict 1850-1858....Yale Univ. Press, 1960

Gove, Jesse.....The Utah Expedition, 1824-1858....A.H. Clark, Co., 1928

Gowans, Fred.....Fort Bridger.....Brigham Young University Press, 1975

Hafen, LeRoy....Fort Laramie and the Pageant of the West....Arthur H. Clark Co.

Hafen, LeRoy.....The Utah Expedition, 1857-1858.....A.H. Clark Co., 1958

Hieb, David....Fort Laramie National Monument....U.S.Government Print. Off., 1954

Hoig, Stan....The Sand Creek Massacre....Univ. of Oklahoma Press 1977

Judge, Bill.....Old Fort Caspar.....City of Casper, 196?

Larson, T.....History of Wyoming.....Univ. of Nebr., 1965

Lynd, Boyd....Fort D.A. Russell.....(Reprint) from the Recruiting News

McDermott, John....Fort Laramie's Iron Bridge....Ft. Laramie Historical Ass'n.

Mokler, Alfred.....Fort Caspar.....Prairie Publishing Co.

Monaghan, Jay.....Custer.....University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, Nebr.

Murray, Robert....Military Posts in the Powder River Country...U. of Nebr., 1968

Nadeau, Remi....Fort Laramie and the Sioux Indians...Prentice-Hall, 1967

Ostrander, Major Olson....An Army Boy of the Sixties....World Book Company

OTHER BOOKS AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY
continued

ROLE OF THE MILITARY

Parkhill, Forbes.....Troopers West.....N.Y. Farrar, 1945

Schmitt, Martin F.....Fighting Indians of the West.....Publ. Charles Scribner & Sons

Schmitt, Martin F...General George Crook.....University of Oklahoma Press

Smith, Frederika.....Fremont - Soldier, Explorer, Statesman...Rand McNally

Smith, Helena....The War on Powder River.....McGraw-Hill, 1966

Spensler, Alonson...An 1850 Gold Rush Letter from Fort Laramie by A.C. Spensler

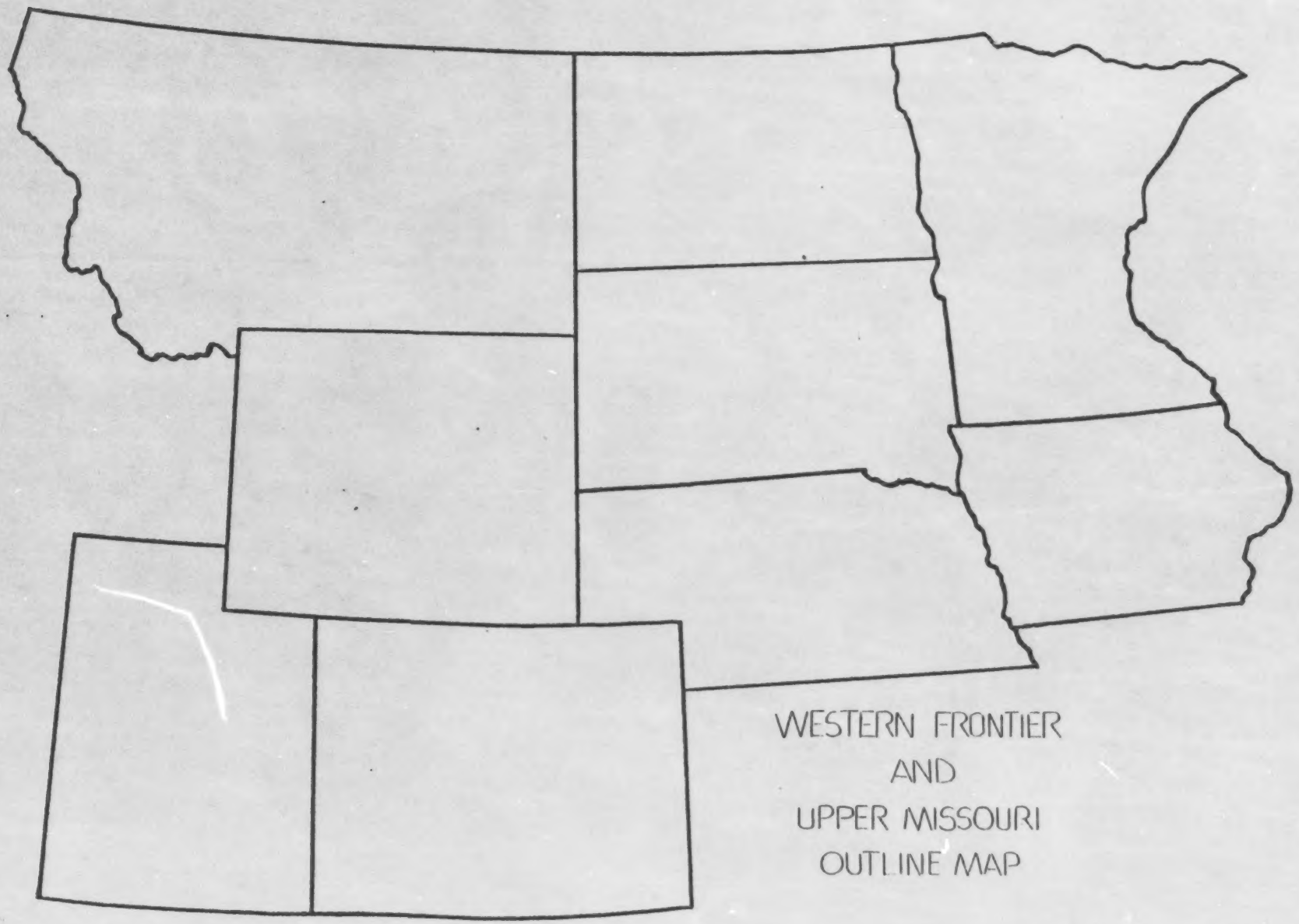
Stewart, Edgar....Custer's Luck.....University of Oklahoma Press

Vaughn, Jesse....The Battle of Platte Bridge....University of Oklahoma Press

Vaughn, Jesse....The Reynolds Campaign on Powder River...U. of Oklahoma Press,1961

Fetterman Massacre (action of Military "Court of Inquiry"
Explanation of Congressional delay for 20 years.) In Sheridan,
Wyoming Public Library

MAPS



WESTERN FRONTIER
AND
UPPER MISSOURI
OUTLINE MAP

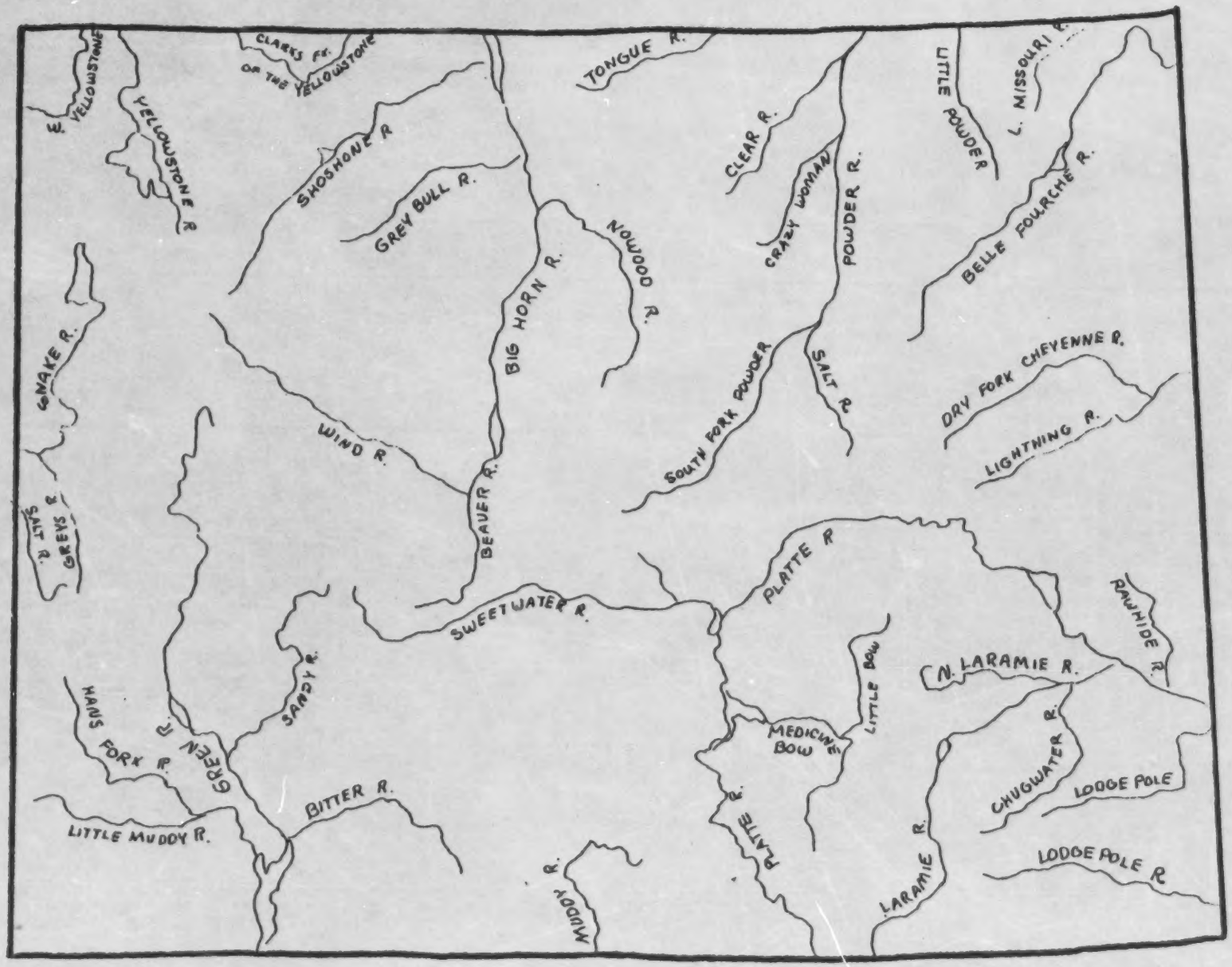
58

59

WESTERN FRONTIER
AND
UPPER MISSOURI
PHYSIOGRAPHIC MAP

49

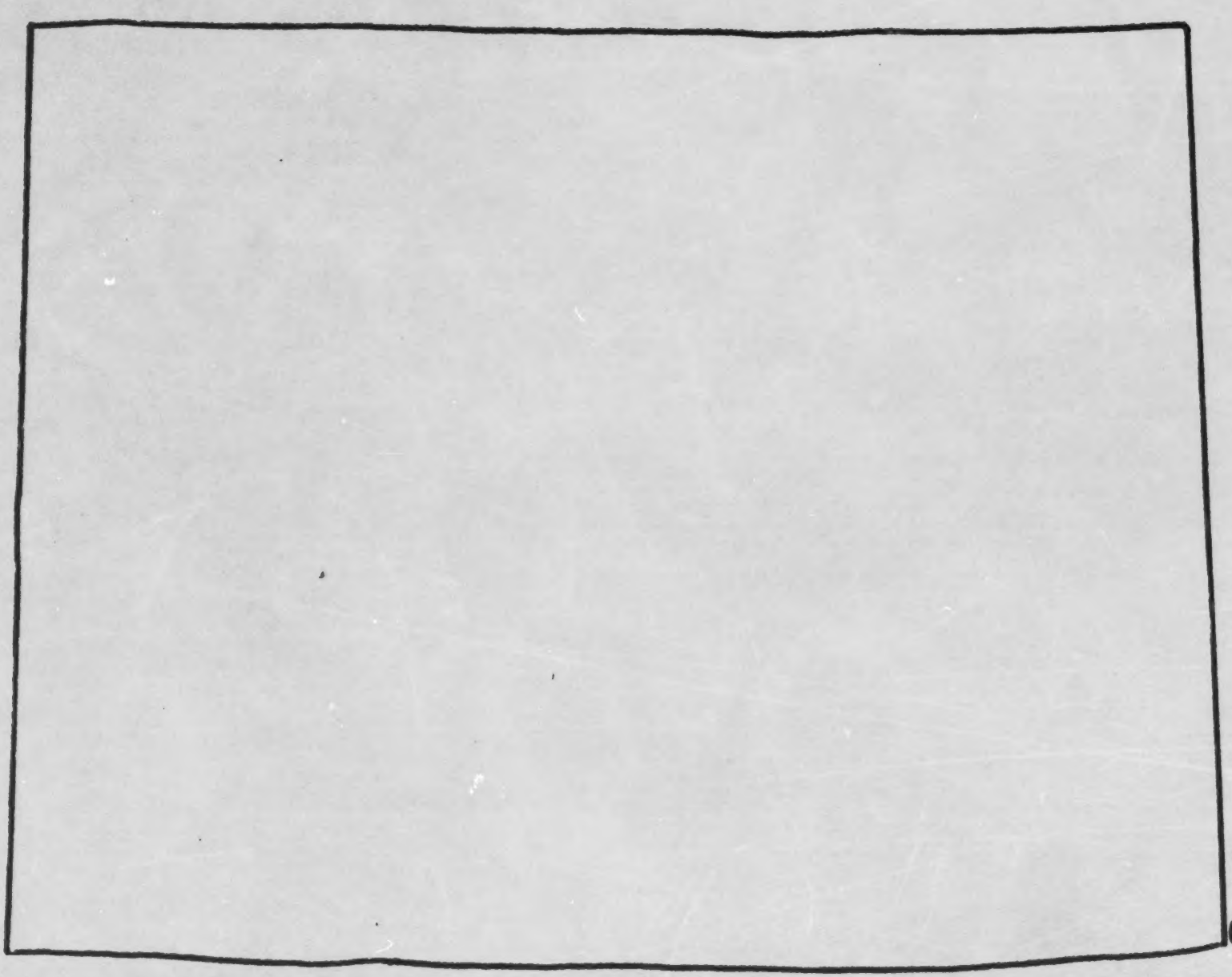
WYOMING PROJECT MAP



62

63

WYOMING OUTLINE MAP

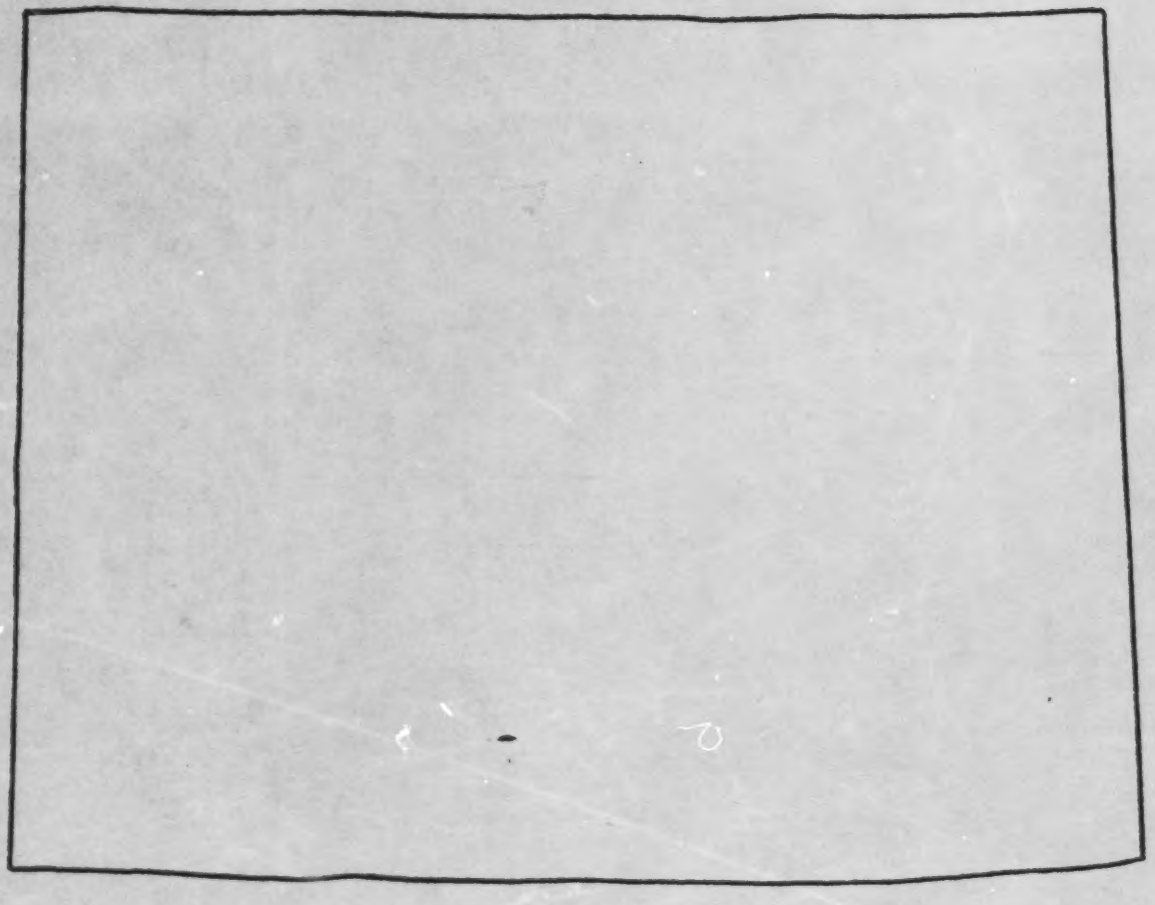


51

64

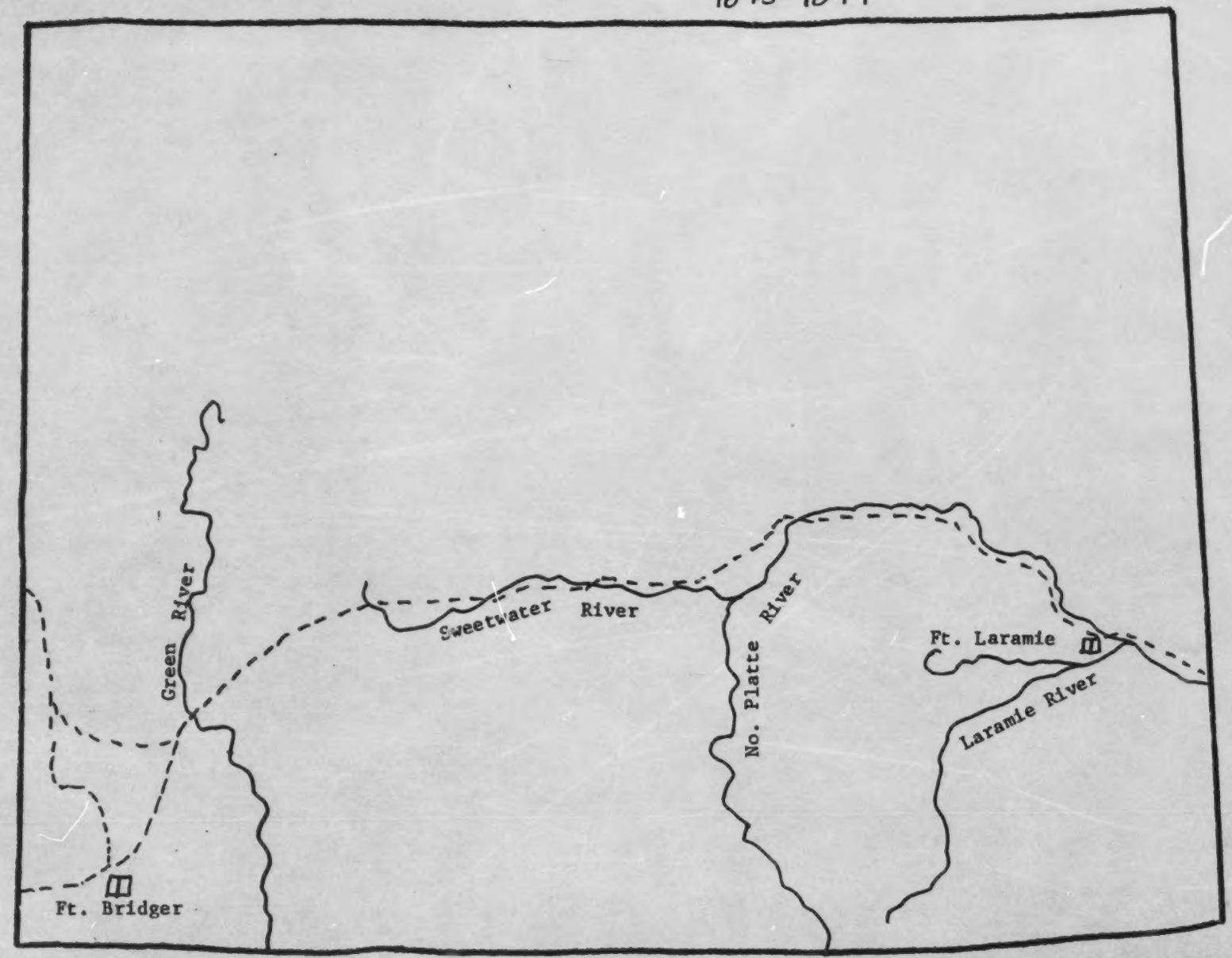
65

WYOMING OUTLINE MAP



WYOMING OUTLINE MAP - OREGON-UTAH-CALIFORNIA TRAIL

1043-1849

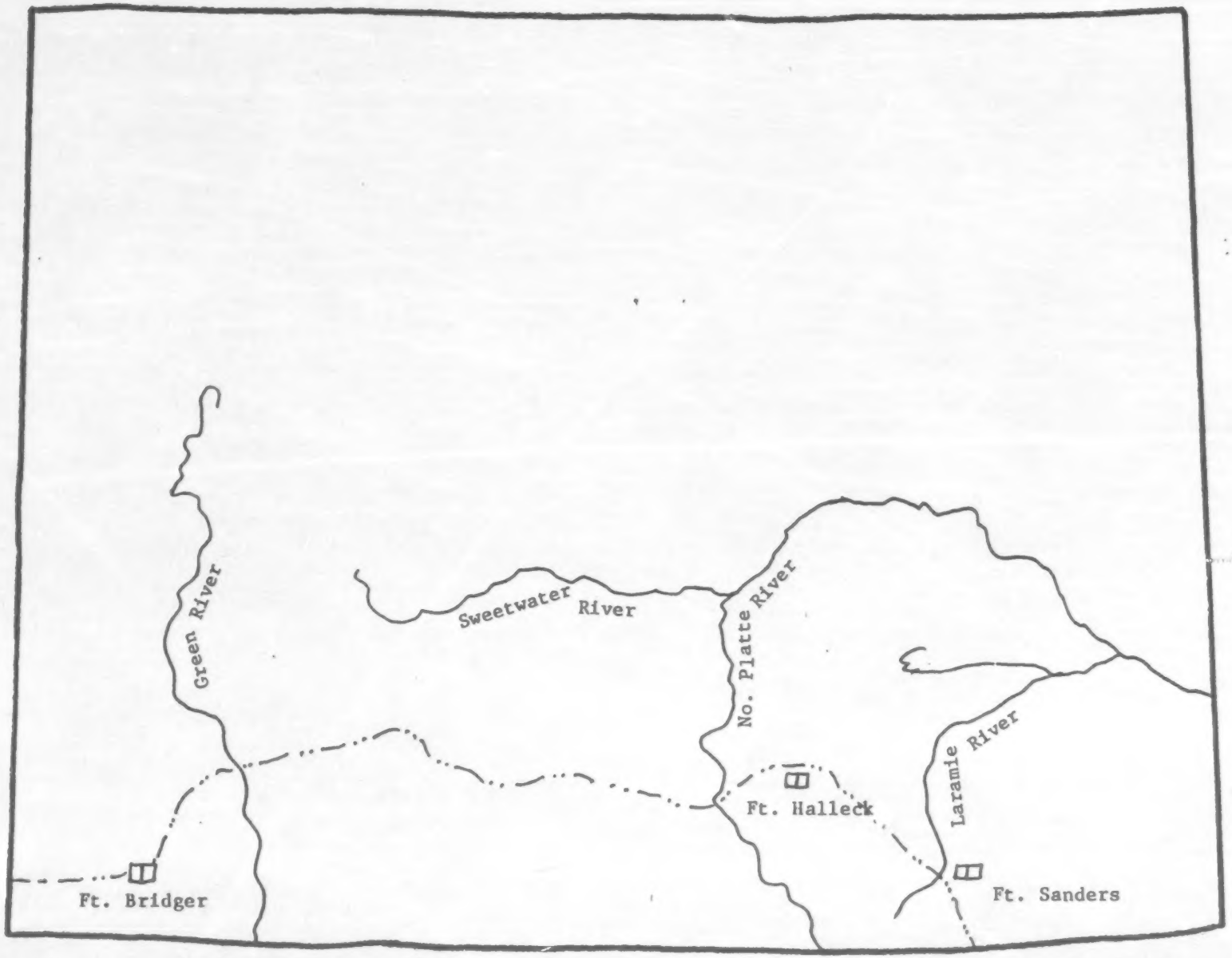


63

67

68

WYOMING OUTLINE MAP- OVERLAND TRAIL

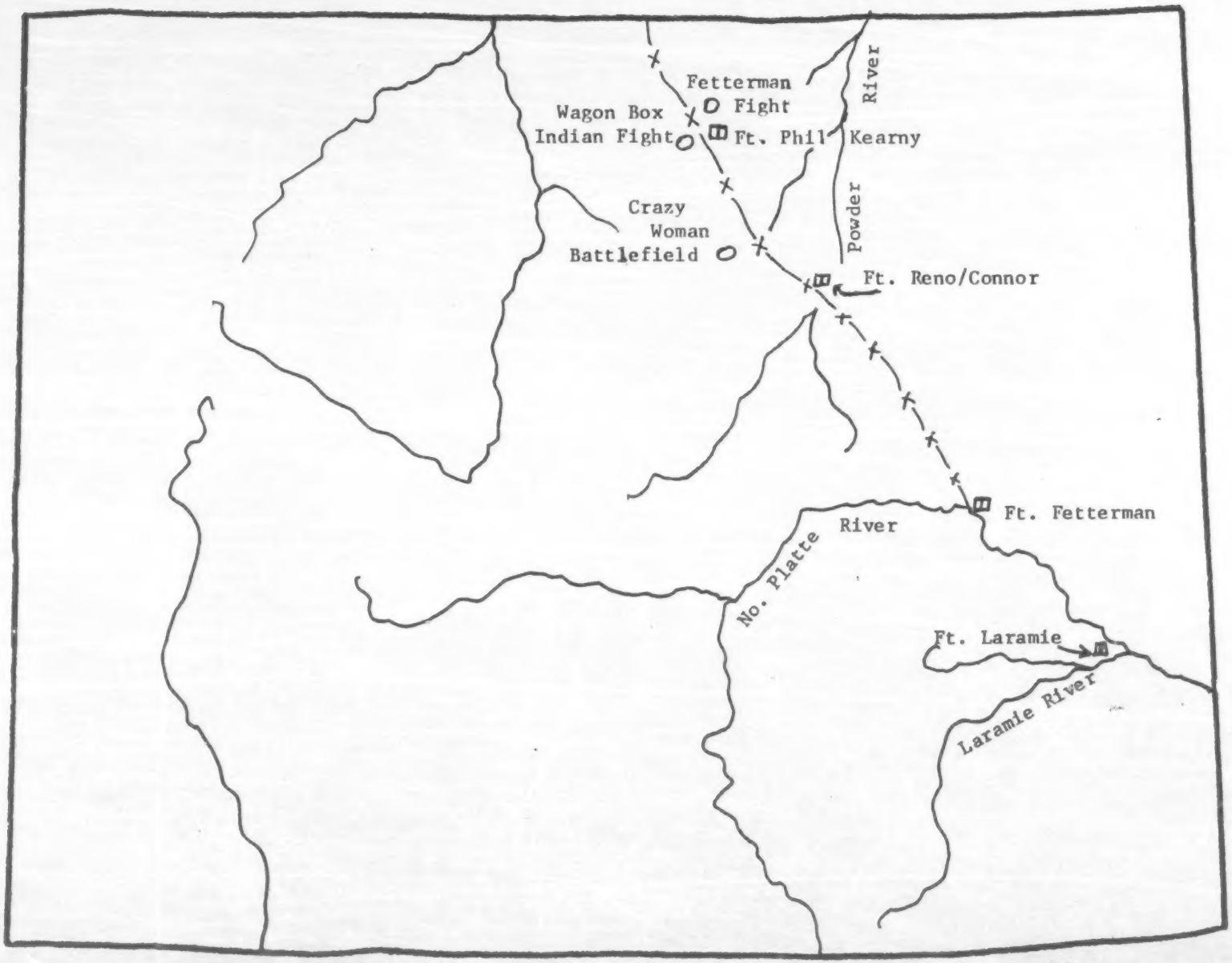


54

69

70

WYOMING OUTLINE MAP - BOZEMAN TRAIL

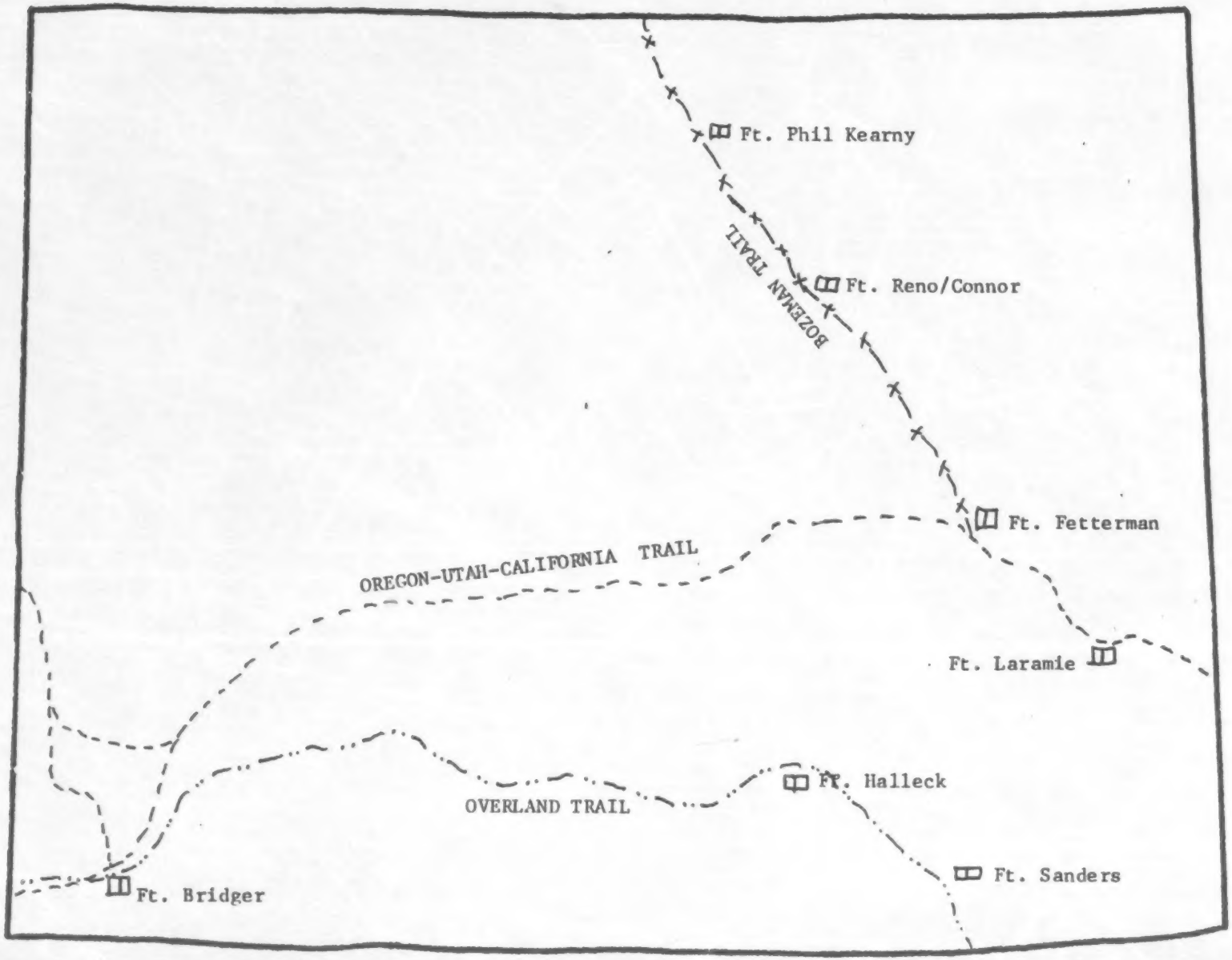


55

71

72

WYOMING OUTLINE MAP - MAJOR TRAILS

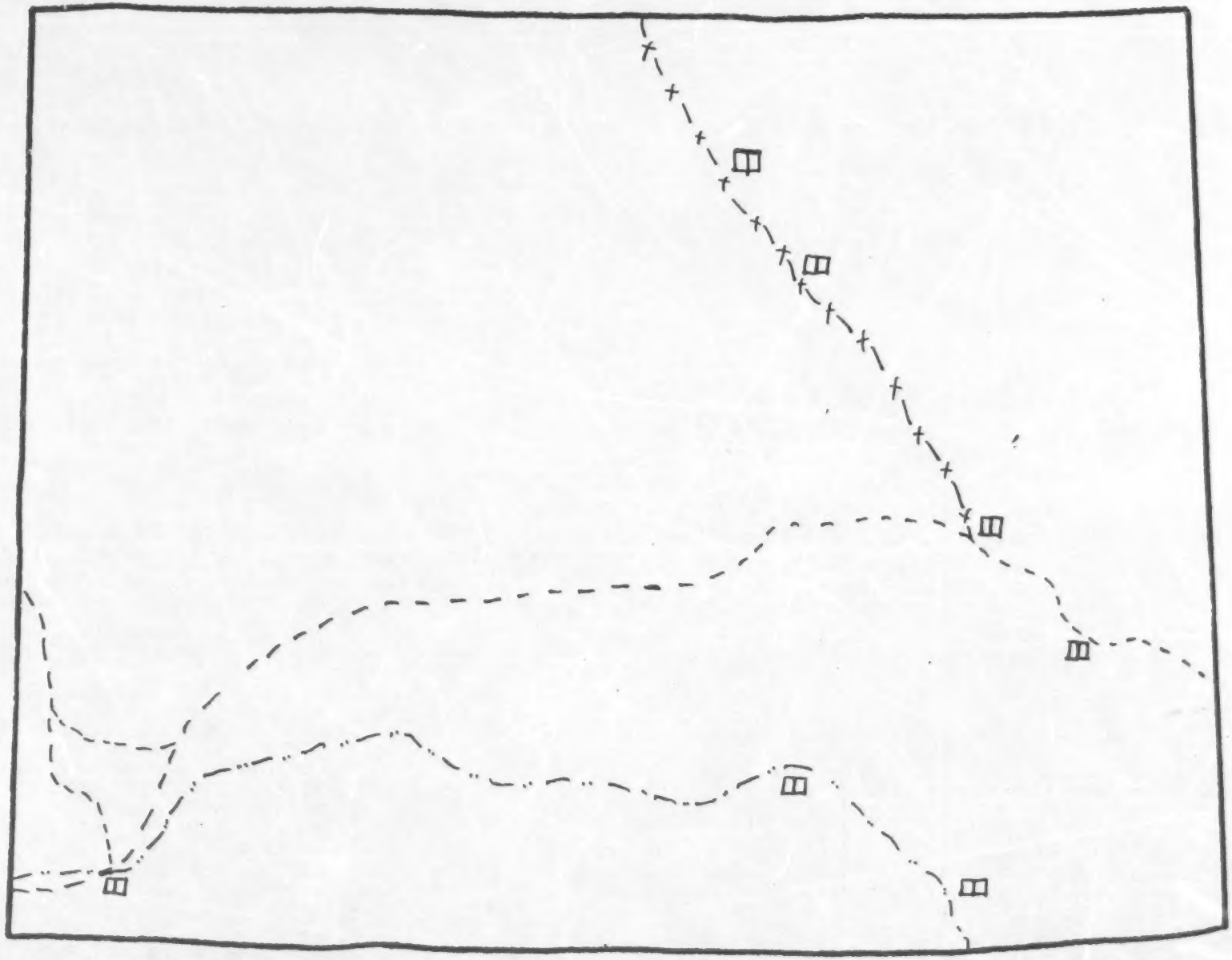


25

73

74

WYOMING OUTLINE MAP - MAJOR TRAILS



75

76

57